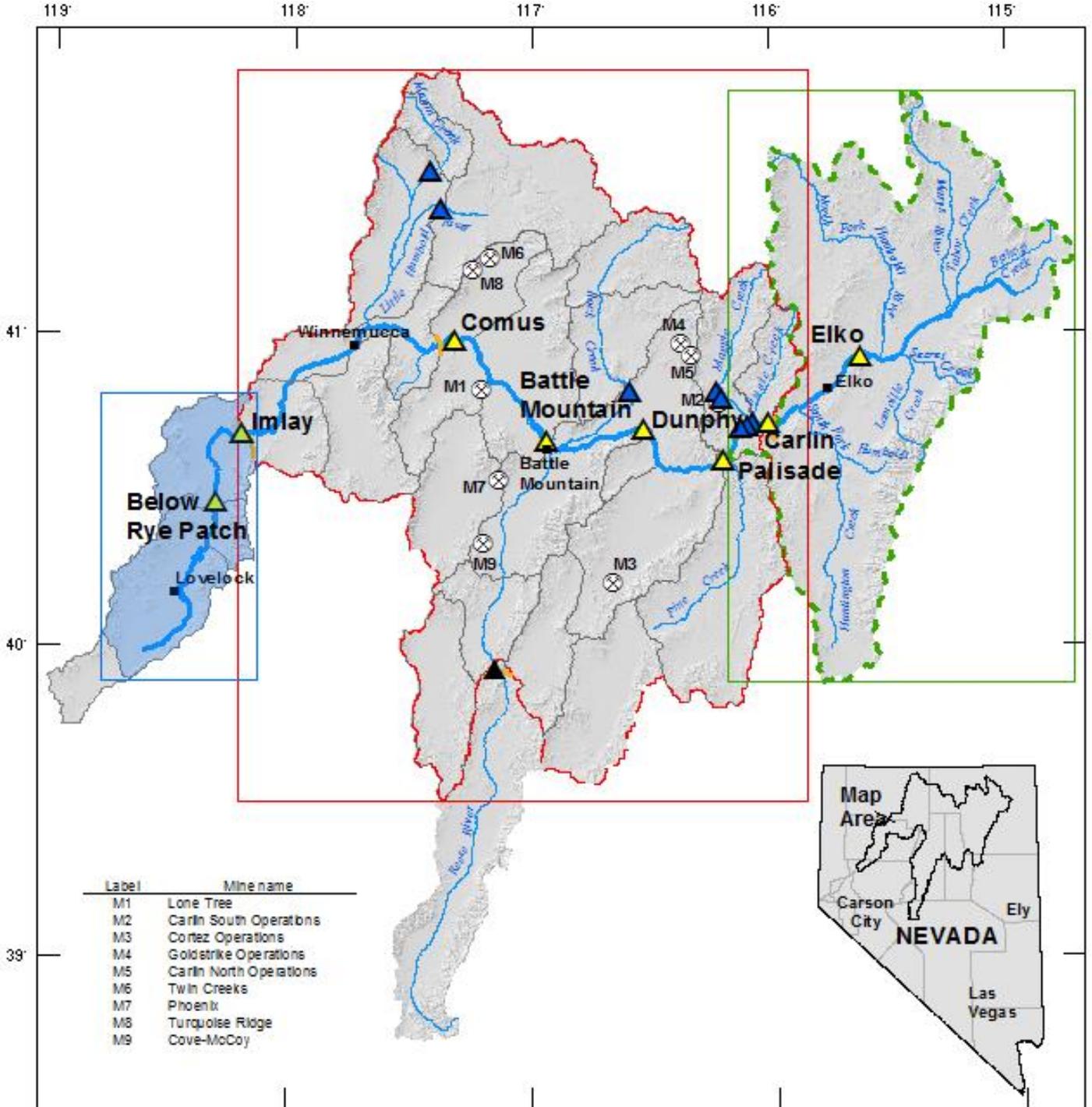


# HUMBOLDT RIVER BASIN MODELING UPDATE

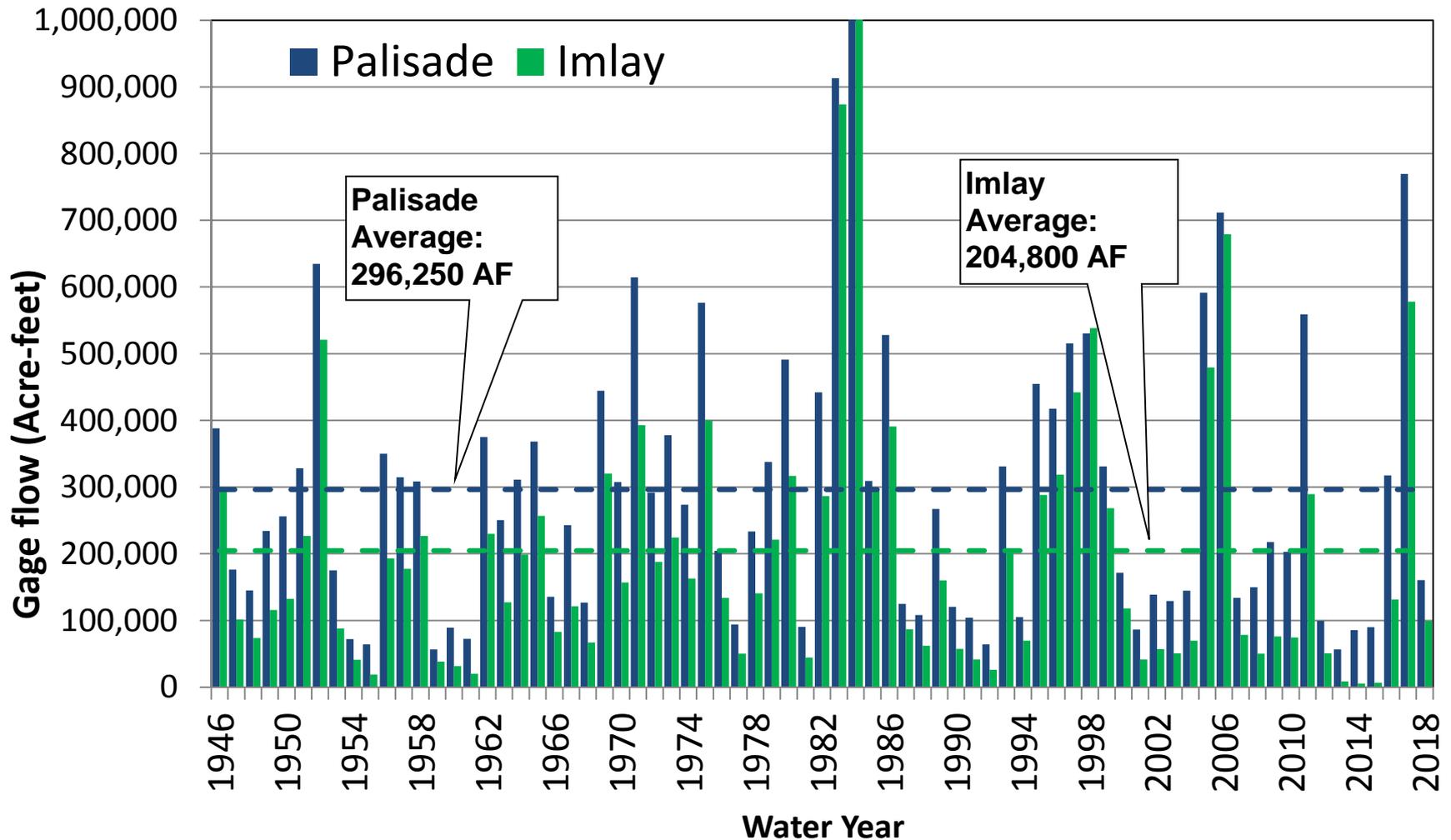
Lovelock & Winnemucca  
January 15, 2019  
Elko  
January 16, 2019



# Humboldt River Basin Modeling Update - Outline

- Water supply forecast
- Water use and overview of modeling effort
- Ongoing modeling and hydrologic studies
  - Hydrology General Overview
  - ET Studies
  - Upper Basin Model
  - Middle Basin Model
  - Lower Basin Model
- Q & A

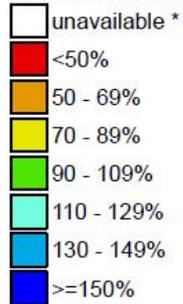
# Humboldt River Flow, 1946-2018



# Nevada/California SNOTEL Water Year (Oct 1) to Date Precipitation % of Normal

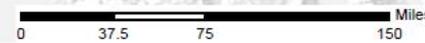
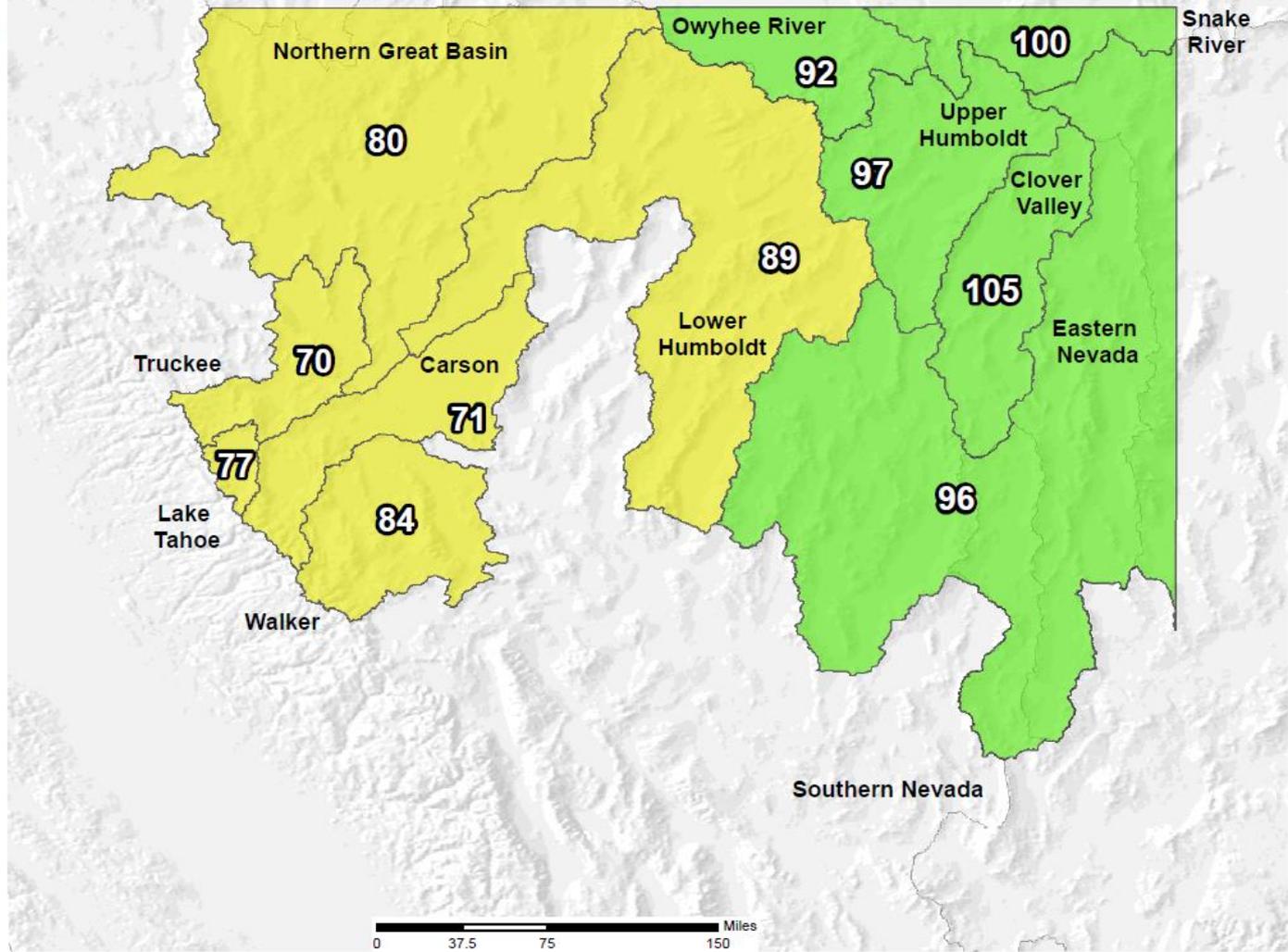
Jan 12, 2019

Water Year (Oct 1) to Date Precipitation Basin-wide Percent of 1981-2010 Average



\* Data unavailable at time of posting or measurement is not representative at this time of year

Provisional data subject to revision



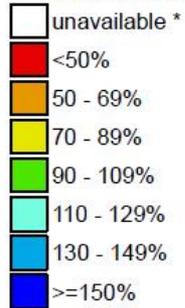
The water year to date precipitation percent of normal represents the accumulated precipitation found at selected SNOTEL sites in or near the basin compared to the average value for those sites on this day. Data based on the first reading of the day (typically 00:00).

Prepared by:  
 USDA/NRCS National Water and Climate Center  
 Portland, Oregon  
<http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov>

# Nevada/California SNOTEL Current Snow Water Equivalent (SWE) % of Normal

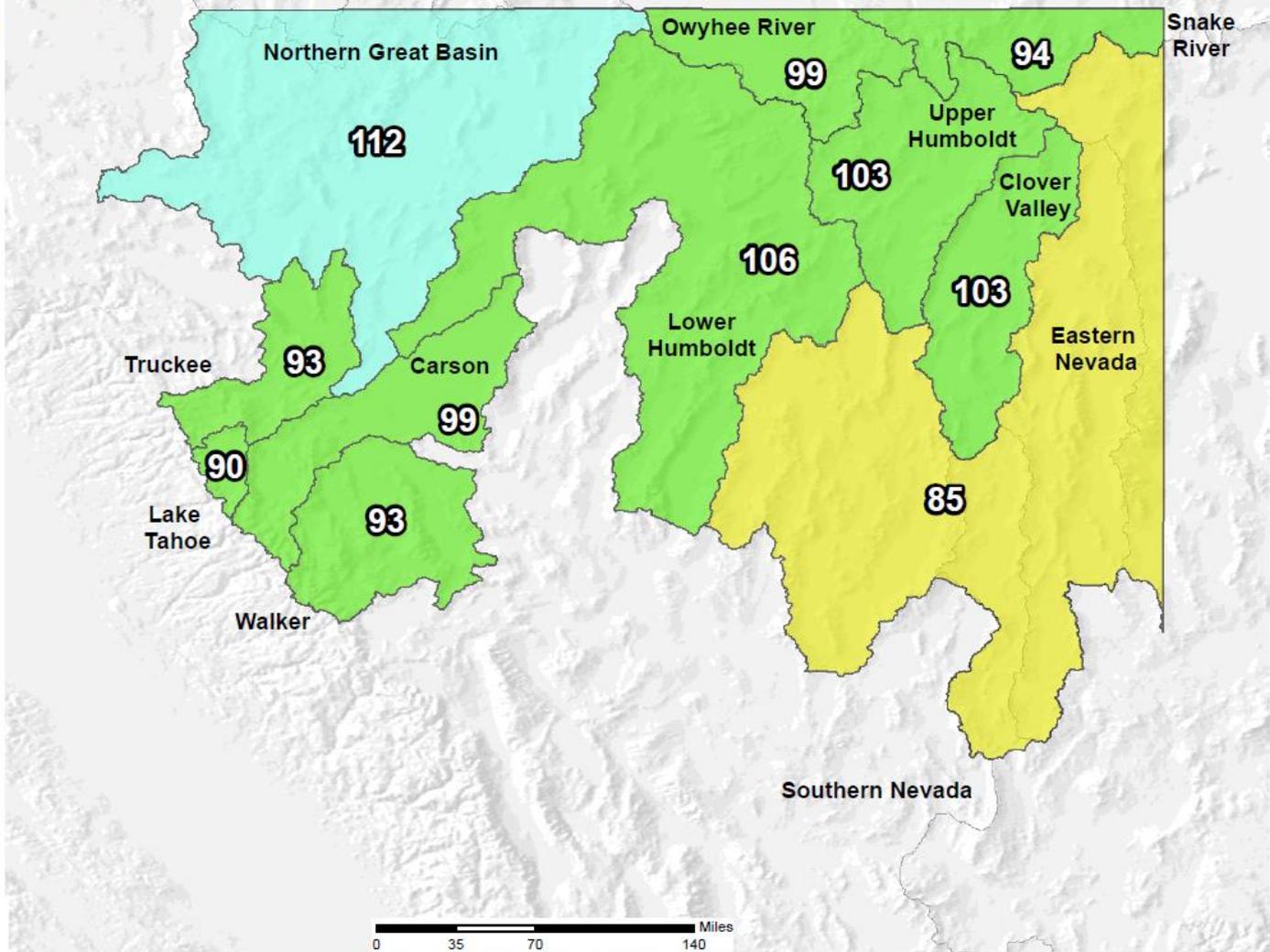
Jan 12, 2019

Current Snow Water Equivalent Basin-wide Percent of 1981-2010 Median



\* Data unavailable at time of posting or measurement is not representative at this time of year

Provisional data subject to revision



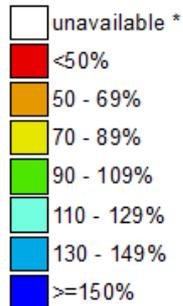
The current snow water equivalent percent of normal represents the snow water equivalent found at selected SNOTEL sites in or near the basin compared to the average value for those sites on this day. Data based on the first reading of the day (typically 00:00).

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# Nevada/California SNOTEL Water Year (Oct 1) to Date Precipitation % of Normal

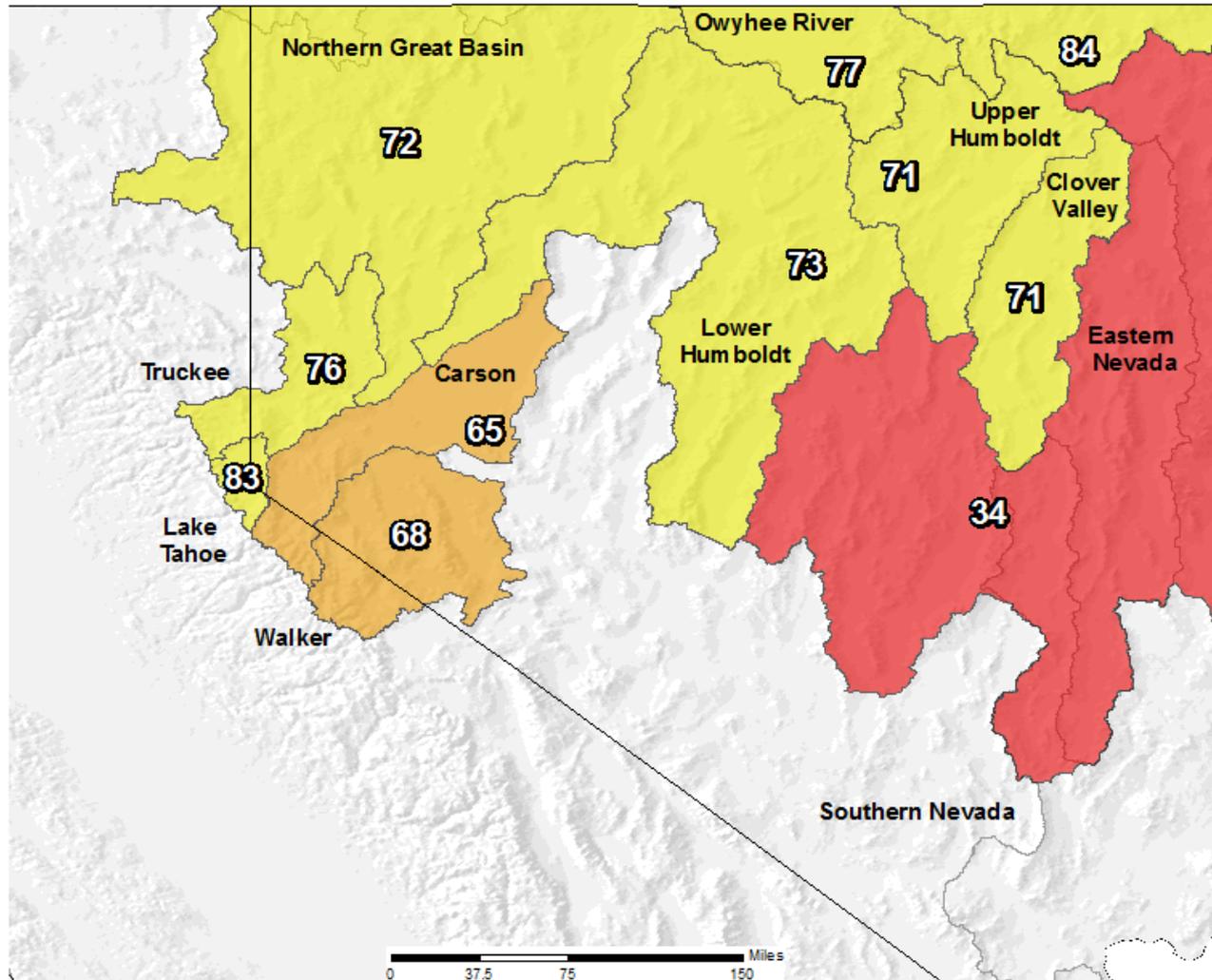
Jan 08, 2018

Water Year (Oct 1) to Date Precipitation Basin-wide Percent of 1981-2010 Average



\* Data unavailable at time of posting or measurement is not representative at this time of year

Provisional data subject to revision



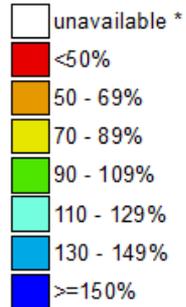
The water year to date precipitation percent of normal represents the accumulated precipitation found at selected SNOTEL sites in or near the basin compared to the average value for those sites on this day. Data based on the first reading of the day (typically 00:00).

Prepared by:  
USDA/NRCS National Water and Climate Center  
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## Nevada/California SNOTEL Current Snow Water Equivalent (SWE) % of Normal

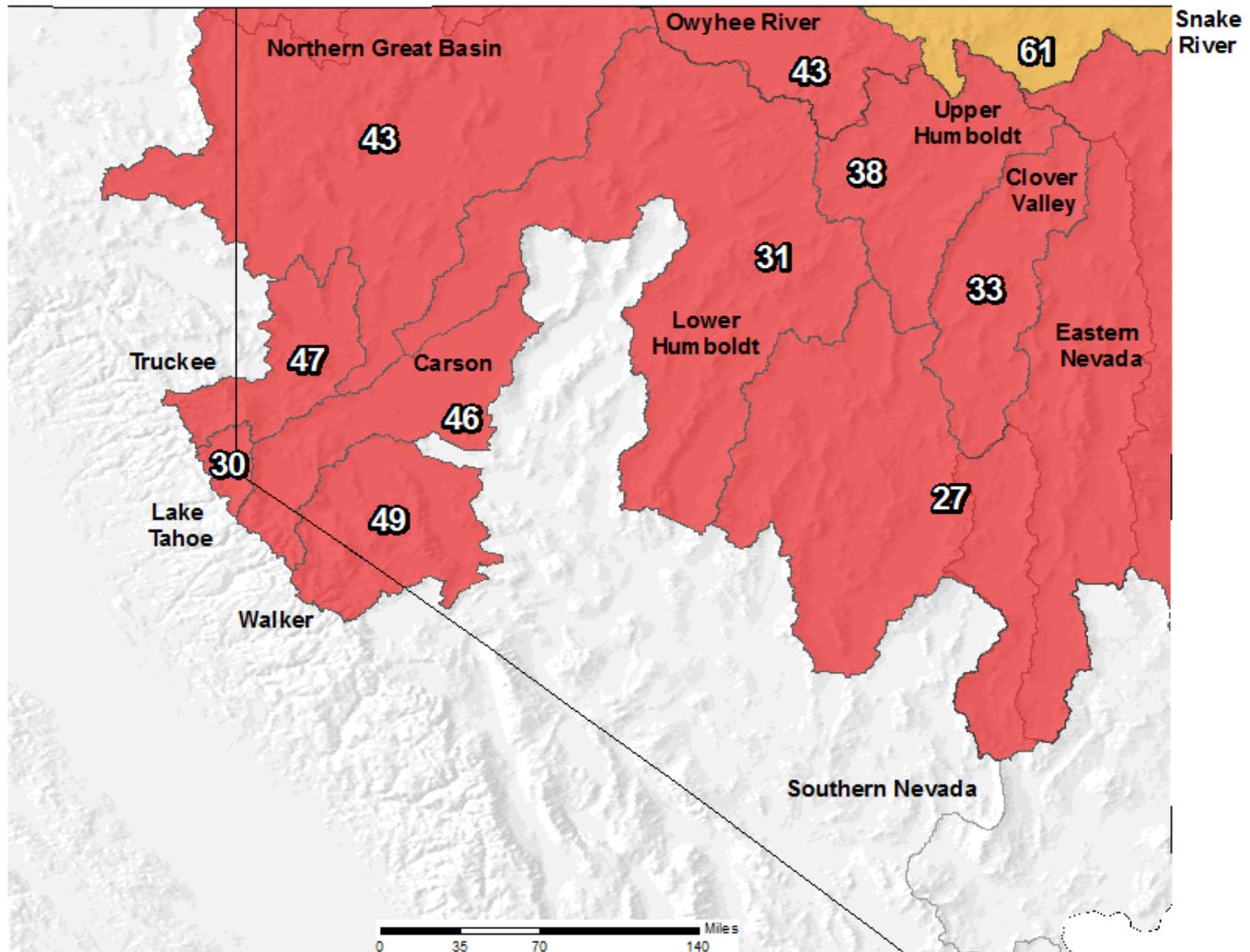
Jan 08, 2018

Current Snow Water Equivalent Basin-wide Percent of 1981-2010 Median



\* Data unavailable at time of posting or measurement is not representative at this time of year

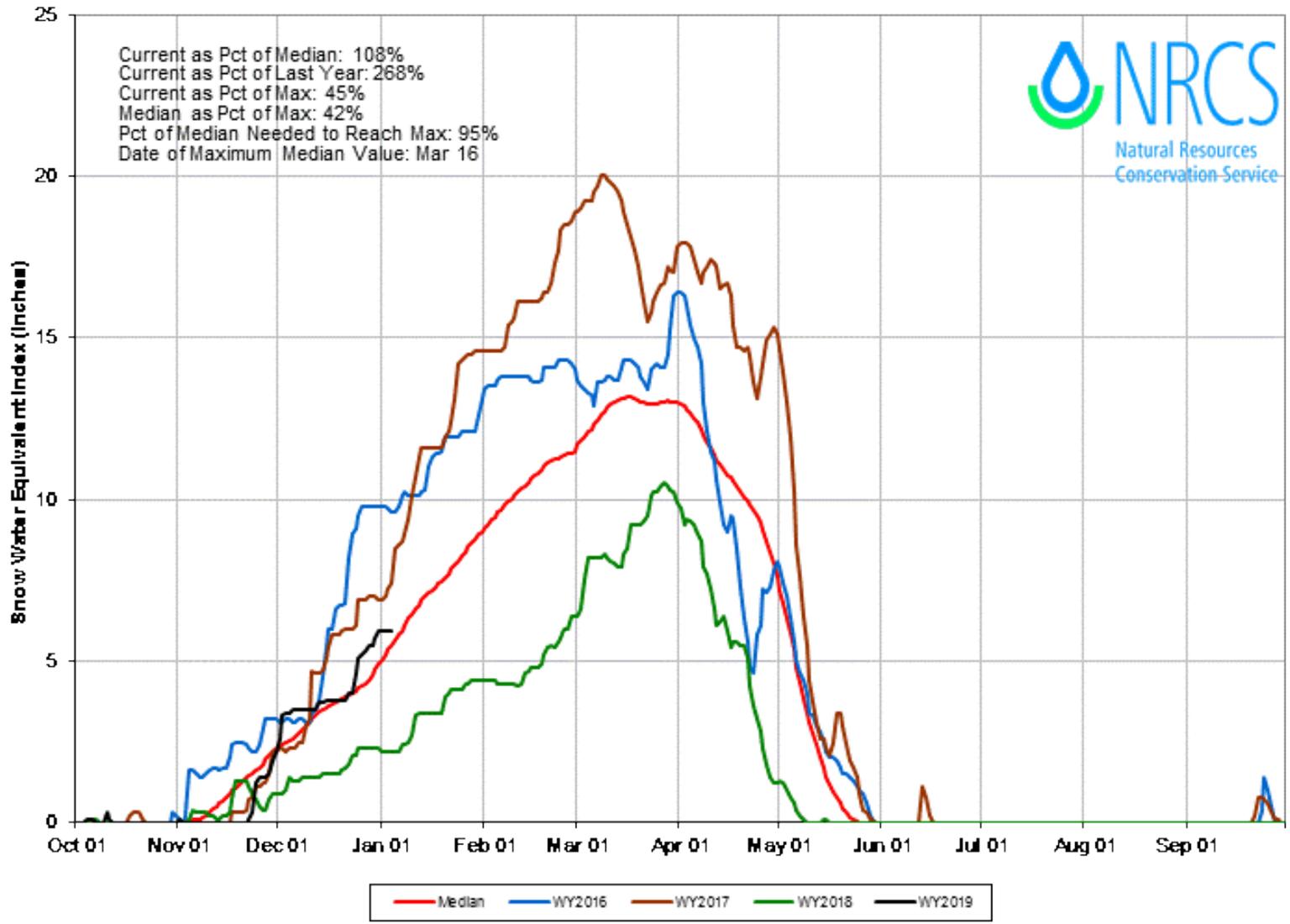
*Provisional data subject to revision*



The current snow water equivalent percent of normal represents the snow water equivalent found at selected SNOTEL sites in or near the basin compared to the average value for those sites on this day. Data based on the first reading of the day (typically 00:00).

Prepared by:  
USDA/NRCS National Water and Climate Center  
Portland, Oregon  
<http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov>

UPPER HUMBOLDT RIVER Time Series Snowpack Summary  
Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Jan 04, 2019



Jan 4, 2019

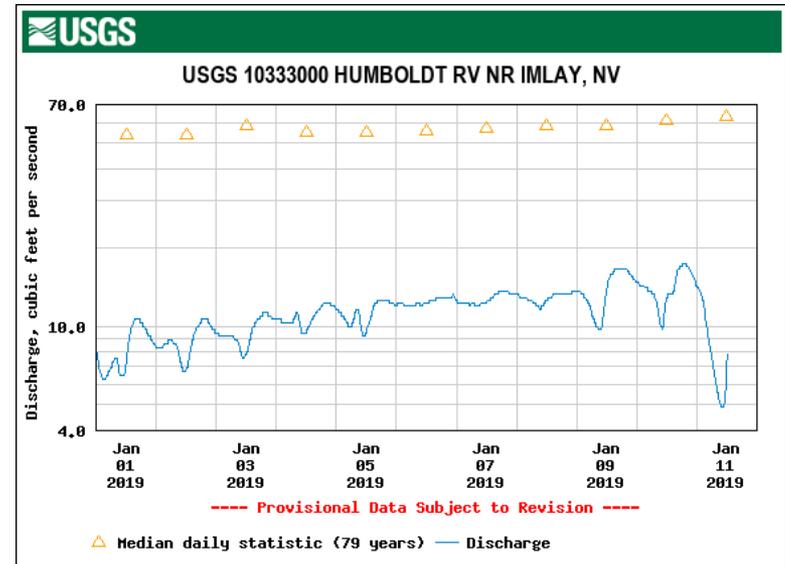
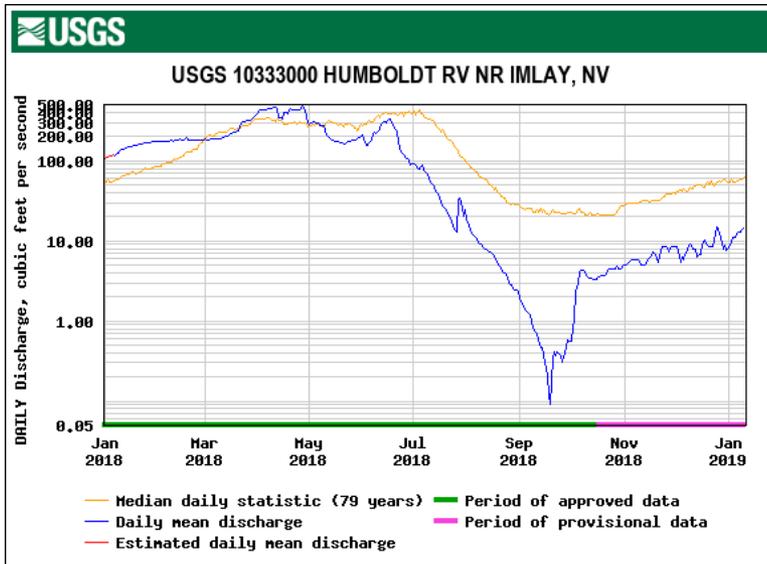
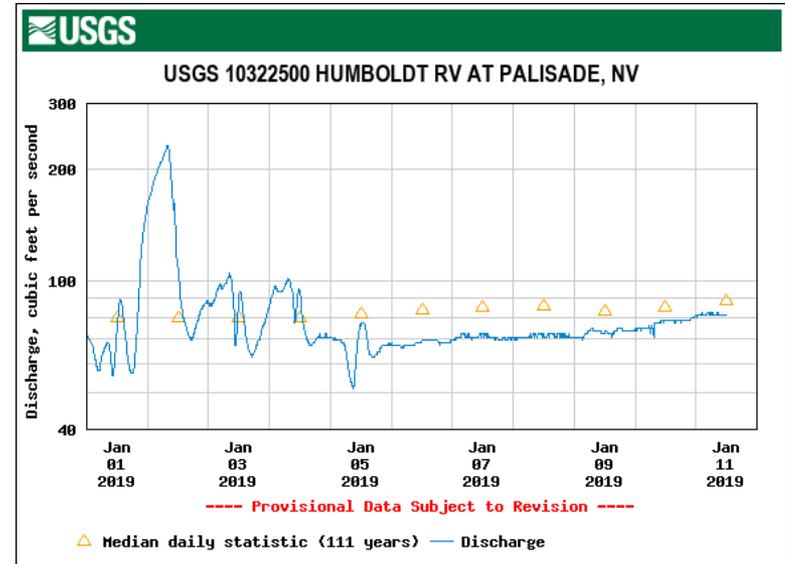
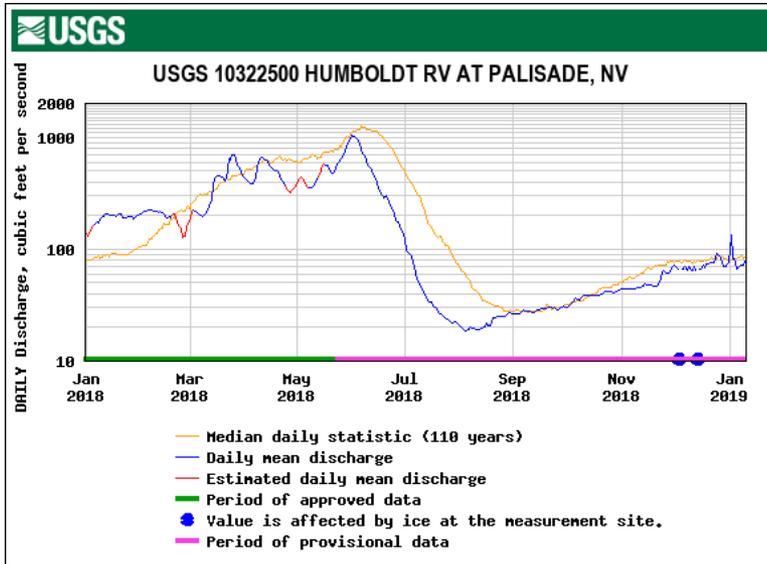
# JAN 1, 2019: Humboldt River Forecast

*NO RIVER FORECASTS PUBLISHED BY NRCS  
FOR JANUARY*

	Current		Last Year	Average
	(KAF)	% of Capacity	(KAF)	(KAF)
<b>Rye Patch Reservoir</b>	<b>79.4</b>	<b>41</b>	157.3	69.2

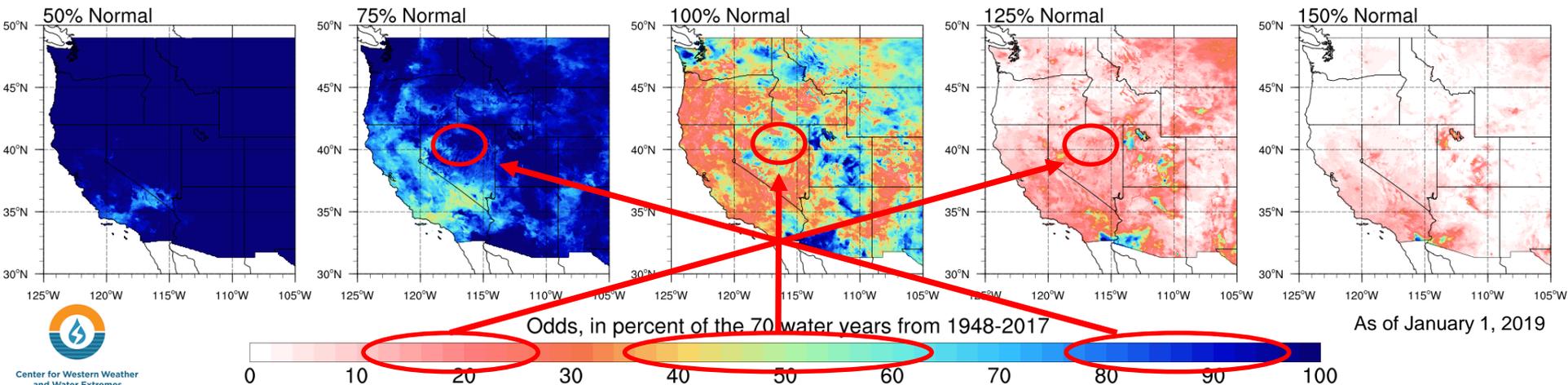
Source: NRCS

# Humboldt River Flow, 2018-2019



# Precipitation Odds for Water Year 2019

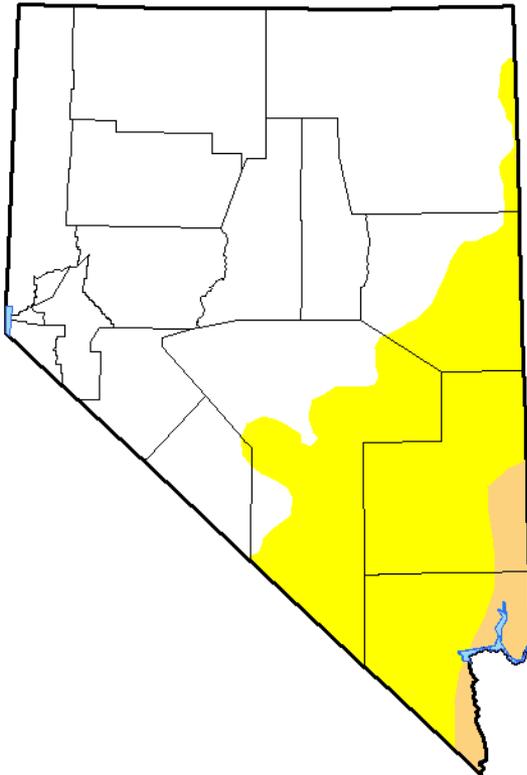
## Odds of Water Year 2019 Reaching Various Fractions of Water Year Normal Precipitation Totals



***50:50 Odds for 100% year***

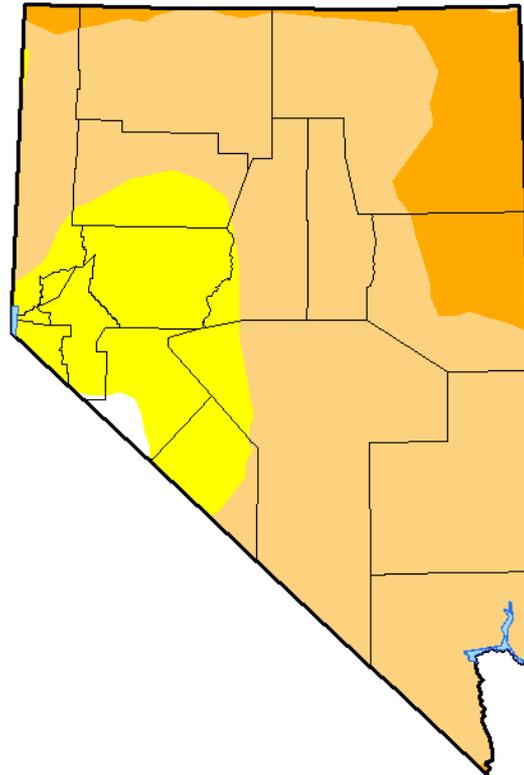
January 9, 2018

**U.S. Drought Monitor  
Nevada**



January 1, 2019

**U.S. Drought Monitor  
Nevada**



**January 1, 2019**

*(Released Thursday, Jan. 3, 2019)*

Valid 7 a.m. EST

*Drought Conditions (Percent Area)*

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	0.71	99.29	81.09	12.84	0.00	0.00
<b>Last Week</b> <i>12-25-2018</i>	0.71	99.29	81.09	12.84	0.00	0.00
<b>3 Months Ago</b> <i>10-02-2018</i>	5.54	94.46	47.76	13.11	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> <i>01-01-2019</i>	0.71	99.29	81.09	12.84	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Water Year</b> <i>09-25-2018</i>	5.54	94.46	47.76	13.11	0.00	0.00
<b>One Year Ago</b> <i>01-02-2018</i>	68.23	31.77	3.41	0.00	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

*The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.*

Author:

David Miskus  
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC

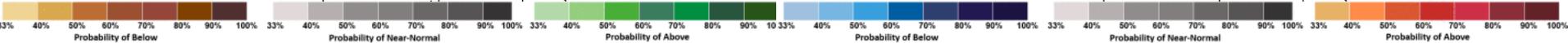
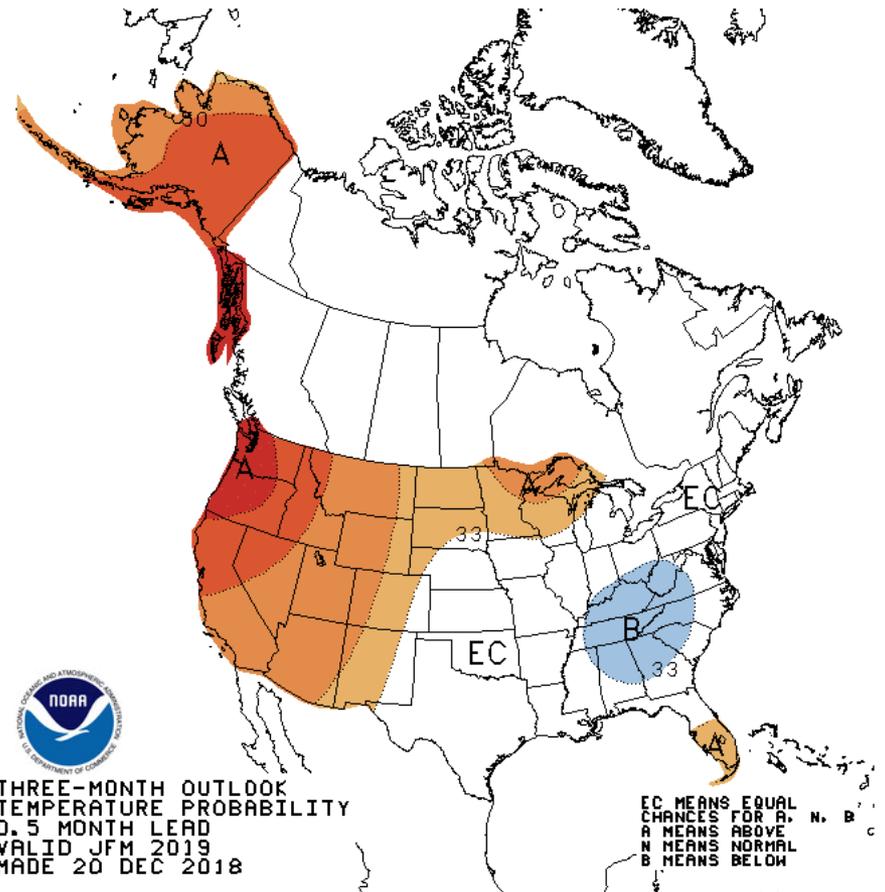
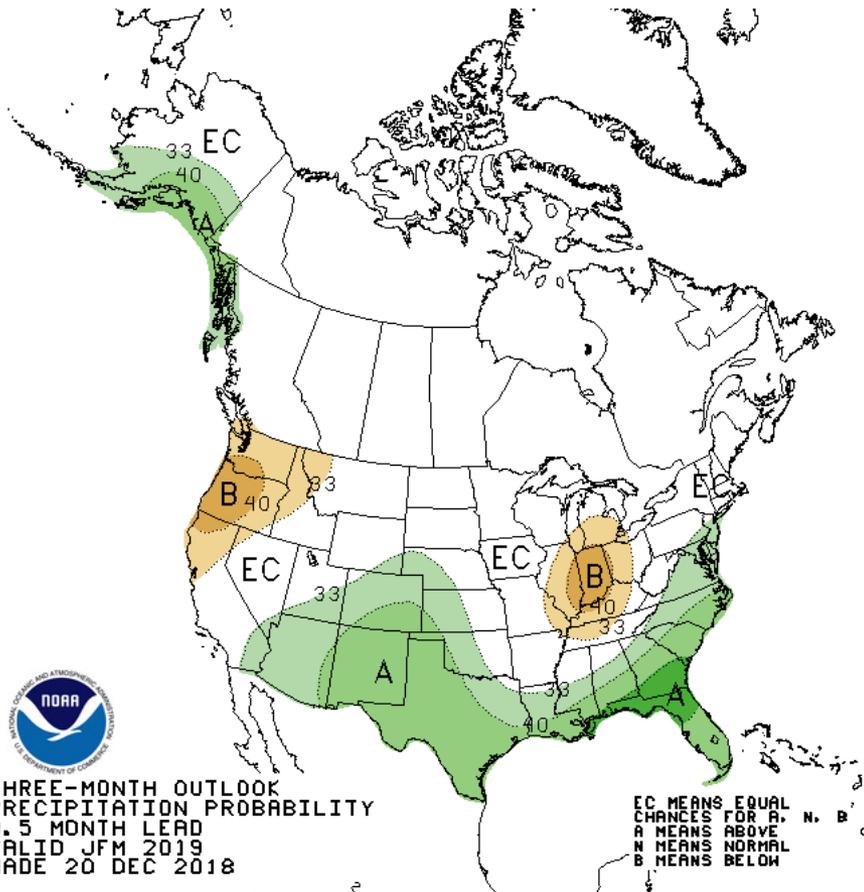


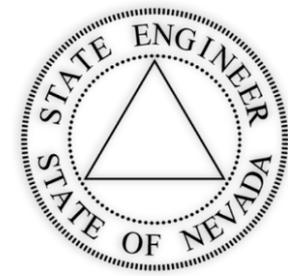
<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

# 3 – Month Outlook

Precipitation

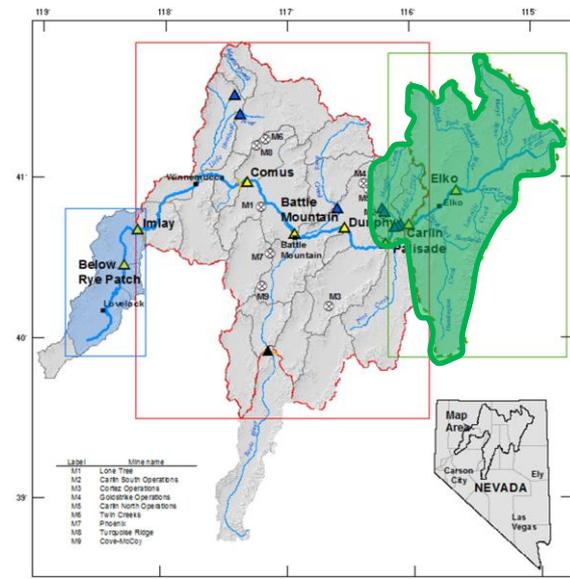
Temperature





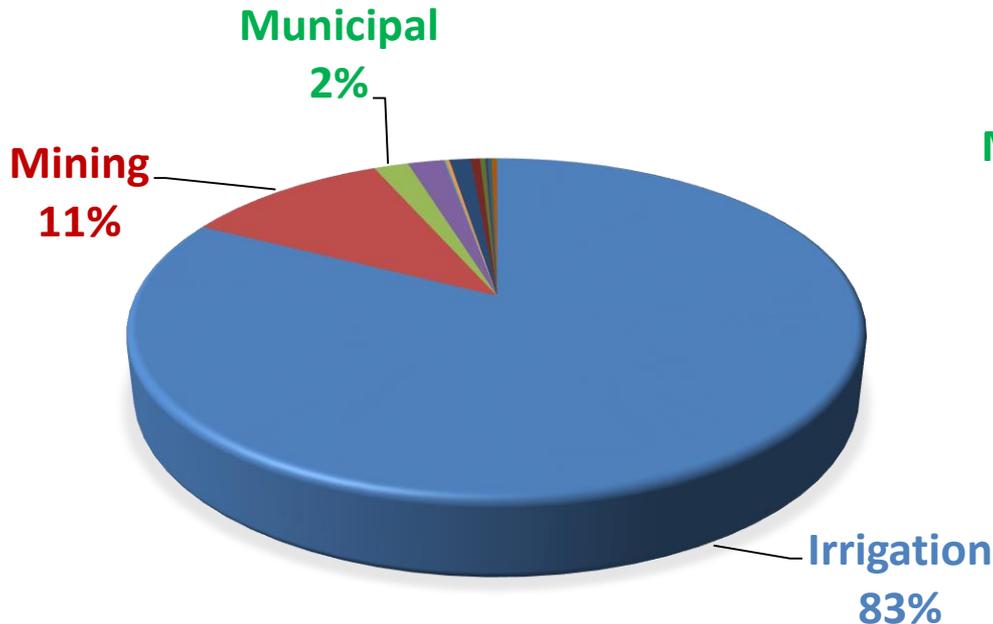
# Water Use

- Humboldt River adjudication finalized in 1930's
- 275,450 acres irrigated under the decree, rights total ~661,200 af
  - 399,200 af above Palisade
  - 261,900 af below Palisade, plus ~135,400 af storage rights
- Groundwater development began in 1950's
- Current groundwater appropriations = 667,100 af
- Perennial yield = 429,100 af
  - 133,000 af above Palisade
  - 296,100 af below Palisade
- 2017 Annual pumping ≈ 300,000 af
  - ~46,000 af above Palisade
  - ~254,000 af below Palisade



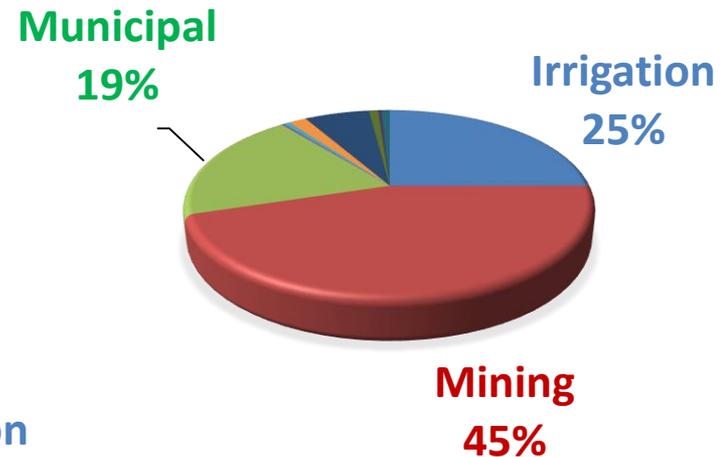
# Preliminary 2017 Pumpage Inventory Results

## MIDDLE & LOWER BASINS



**~254,000 AF**

## UPPER BASIN: ABOVE PALISADE



**~46,000 AF**

# Order 1251: Required metering of all groundwater wells in HRB

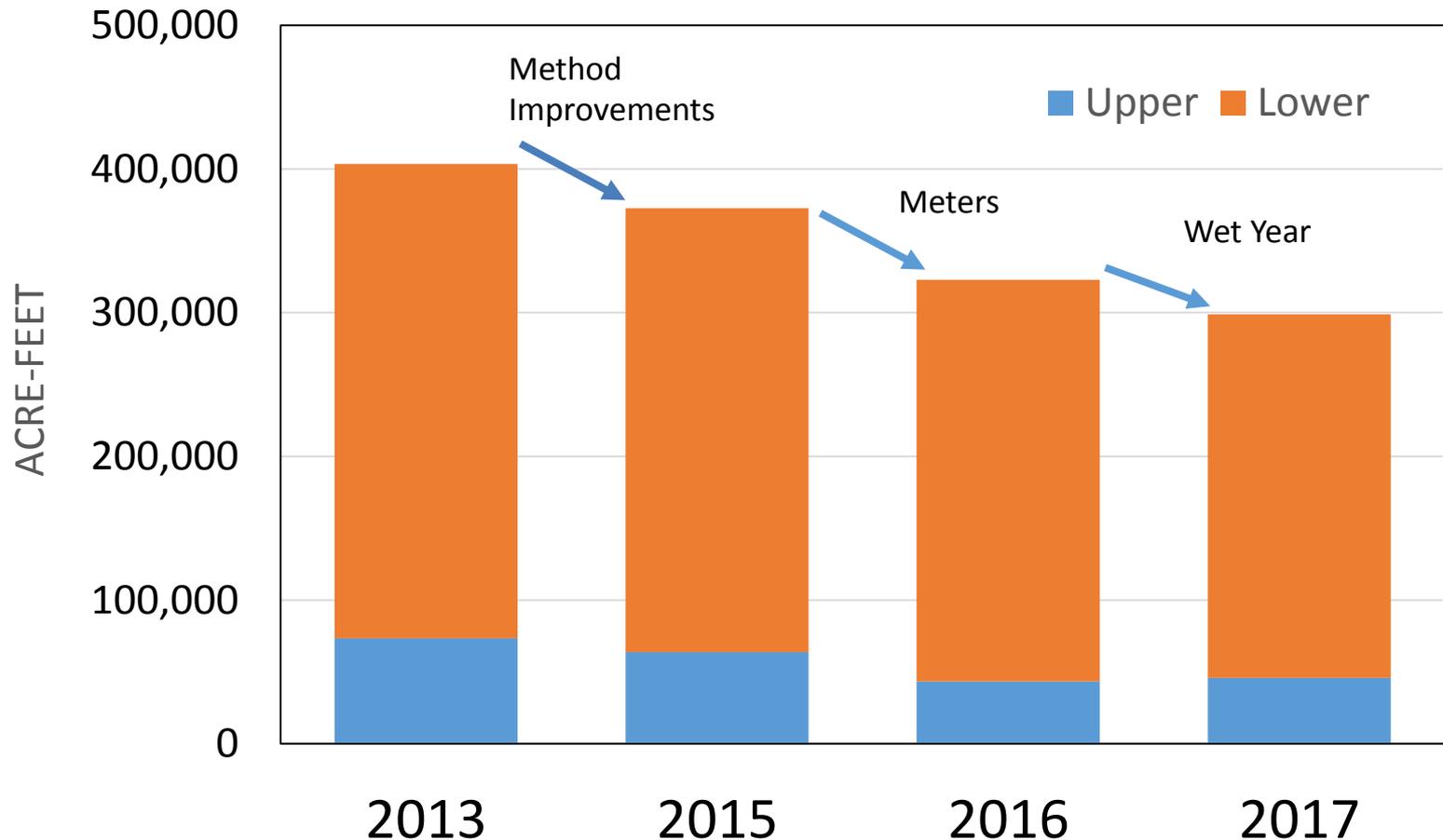
## 2018 Compliance Statistics:

- 1,142 sites with meters
- 1,086 sites reported pumpage in 2018
- 95.1% compliance by sites
- 5% that did not report are very small users
- Very similar to 2017

Compliance measured in terms of pumped water is ~ 99%

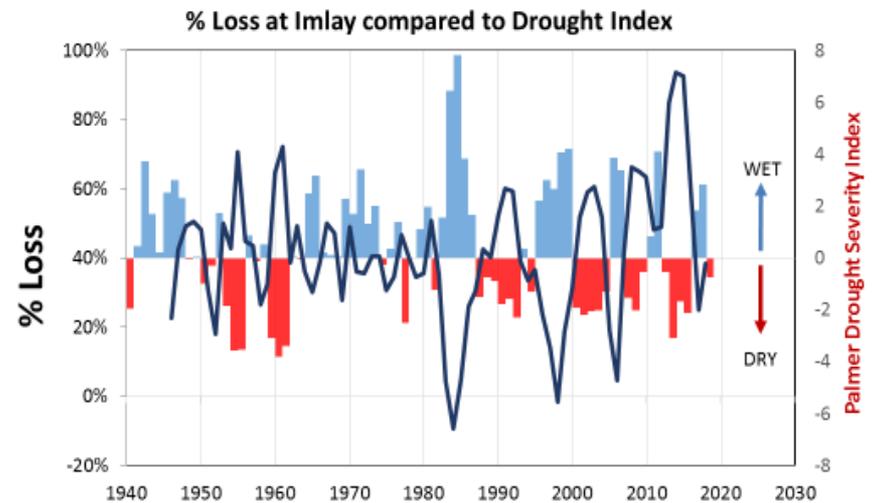
# Recent Pumpage Inventories

## HUMBOLDT RIVER BASIN PUMPAGE

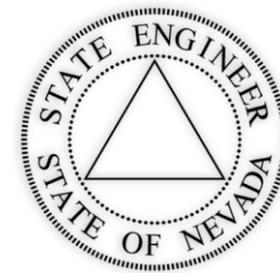


# Problem

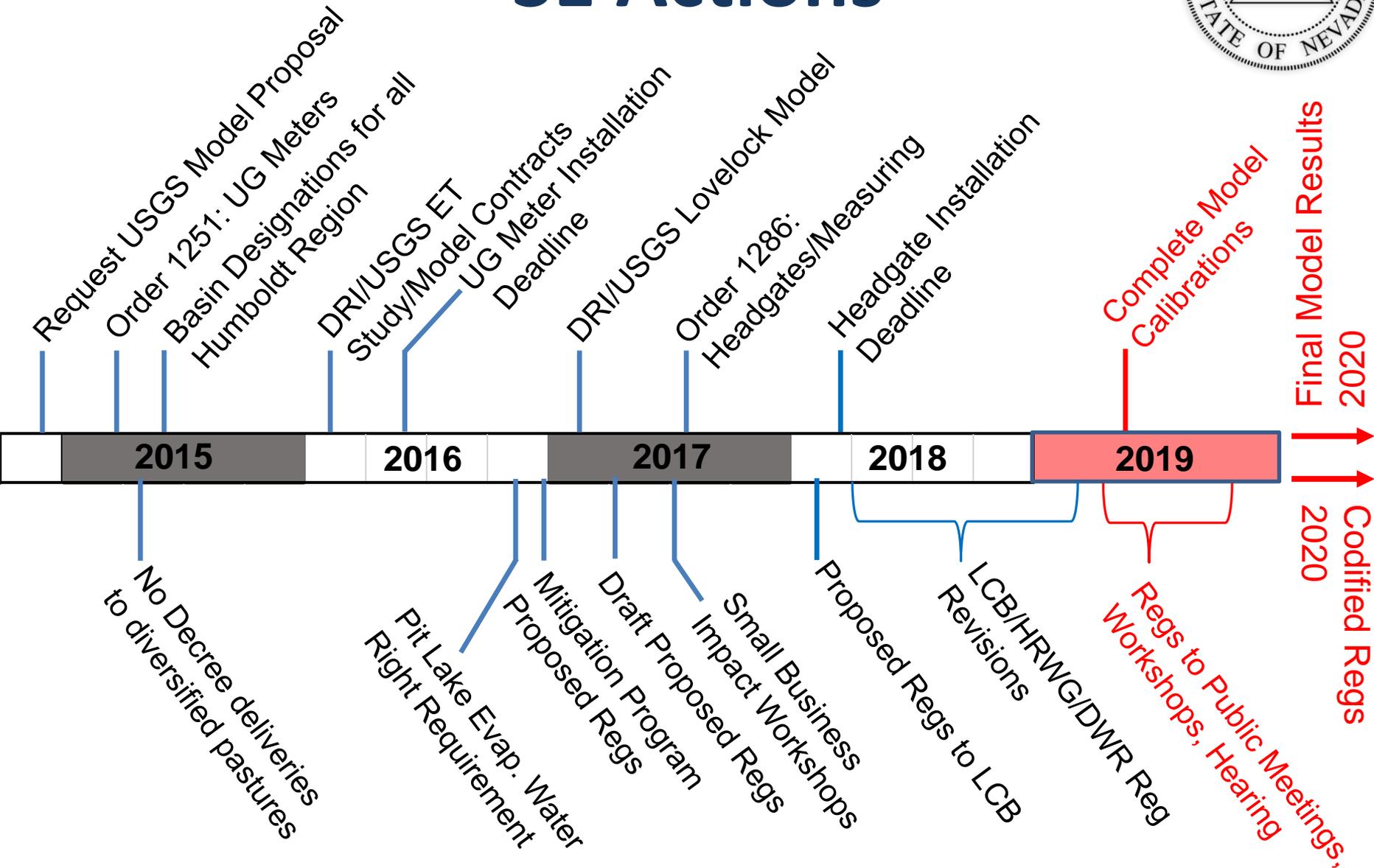
- Humboldt River is fully appropriated, surface water rights are senior to groundwater rights
- Downstream senior surface water right holders got very little water in 2013-2015 period and point to groundwater pumping as causing conflict
- Existing studies indicate that junior groundwater pumping can cause depletion of Humboldt River
- Extent of depletion caused by pumping and magnitude of conflict with senior surface water rights is not known



**... NEED APPROPRIATE TOOLS AND SUPPORTING DATA TO MEASURE/MANAGE CONFLICT**

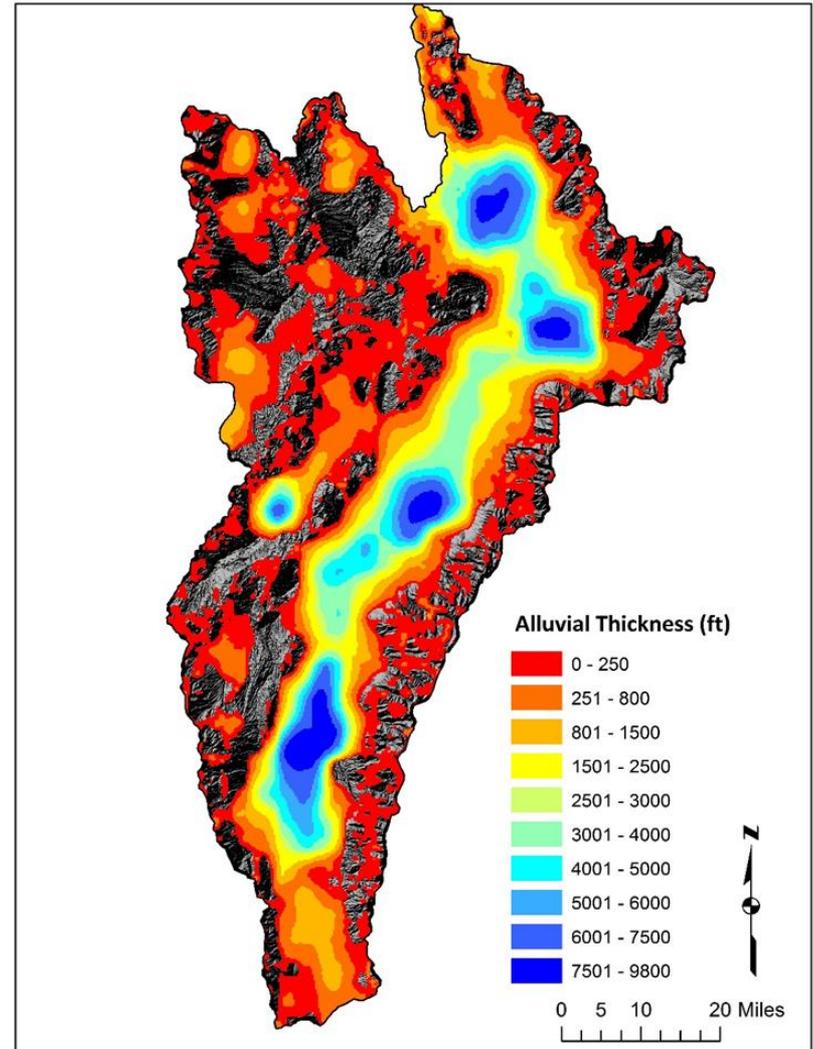


# SE Actions



# Ongoing Modeling

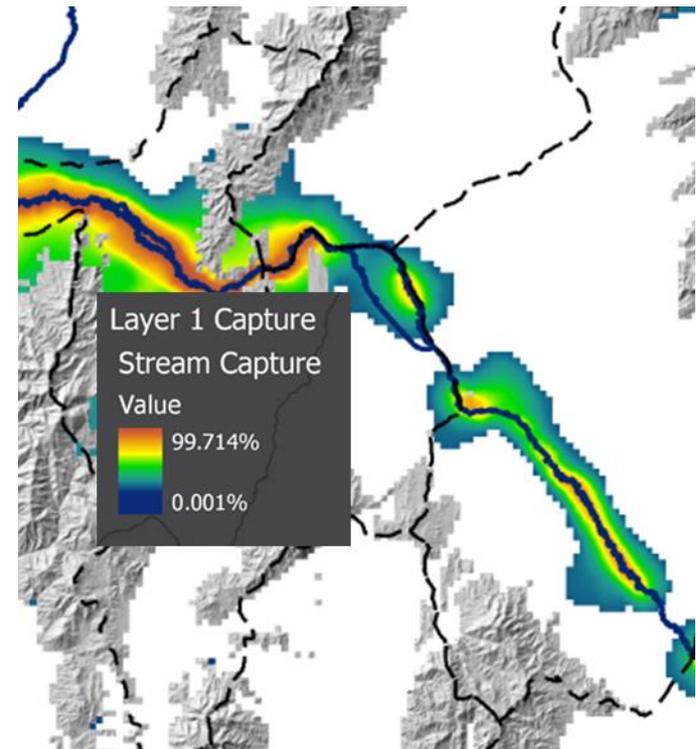
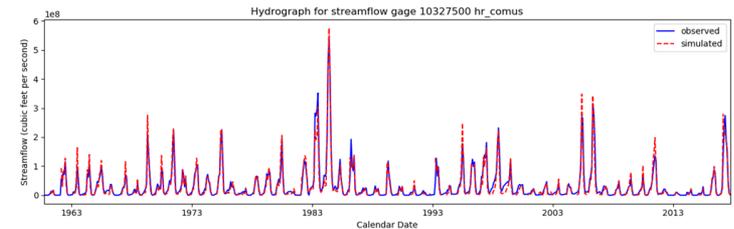
- In order for SE to manage the resource and enforce water law, must be able to determine amount and source of conflict
- SE contracted with USGS and DRI to develop groundwater models to quantify amount of river depletion caused by groundwater pumping
- \$2.8M cost (\$1.75M DWR/\$1.1M USGS JFA)
- 4-year project, completion date = end of 2019



# Hydrogeologic Model of the Humboldt River Basin

- Simulate the natural system
- Use existing models and geology data
- Calibrate to historical flow records, water levels, and pumpage
- Quantify how much surface water is actually captured by groundwater pumping
- Develop capture map showing distribution of capture % (potential capture) for model area
- Use models as tool to manage problem

## Humboldt River at Comus

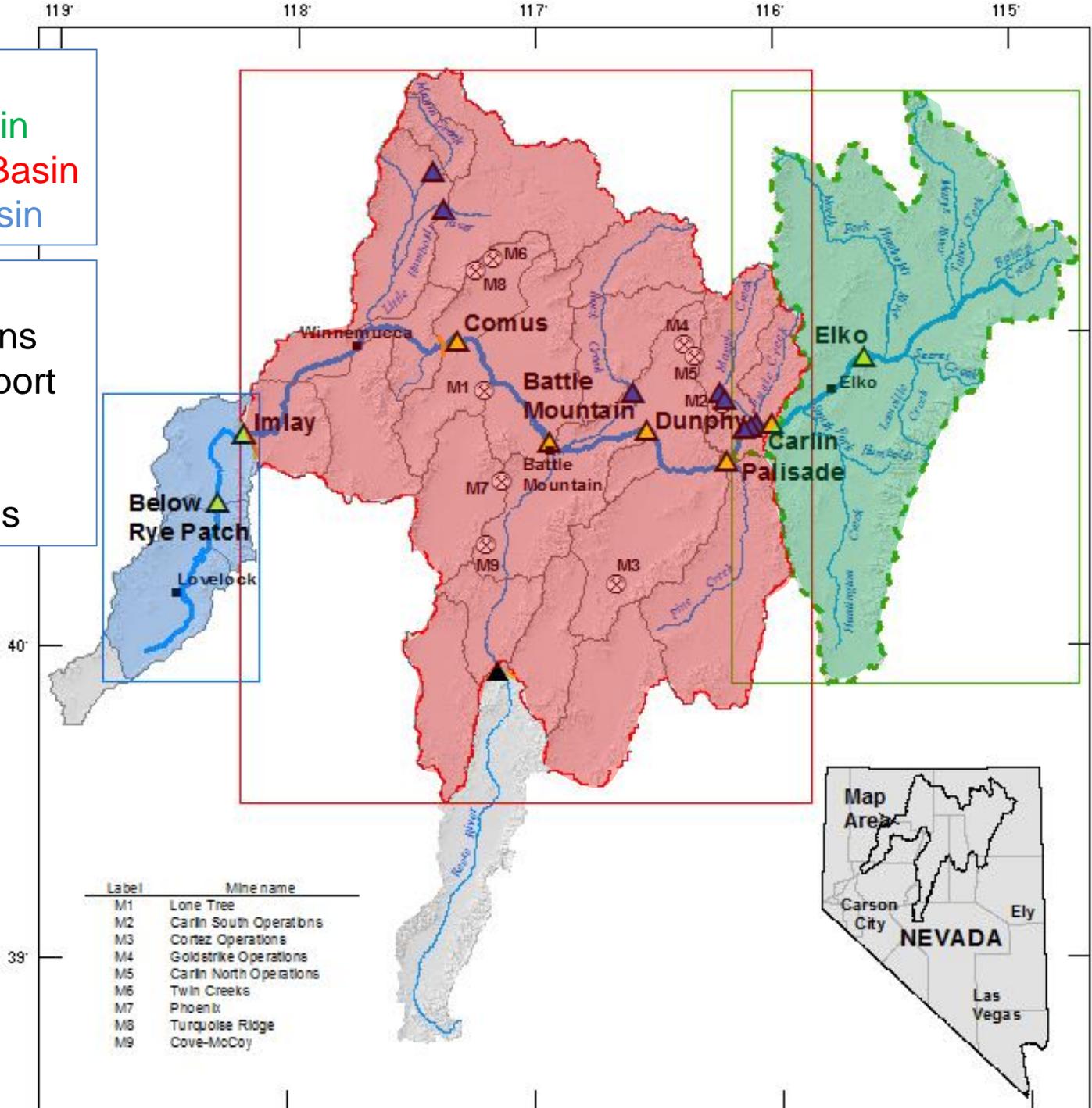


## Model Areas

- DRI Upper Basin
- USGS Middle Basin
- Joint Lower Basin

## DRI ET Study

- Covers all Basins
- Needed to support model water budgets and calibrate models



# **Groundwater 101**

Greg Pohll – DRI

Kip Allander - USGS

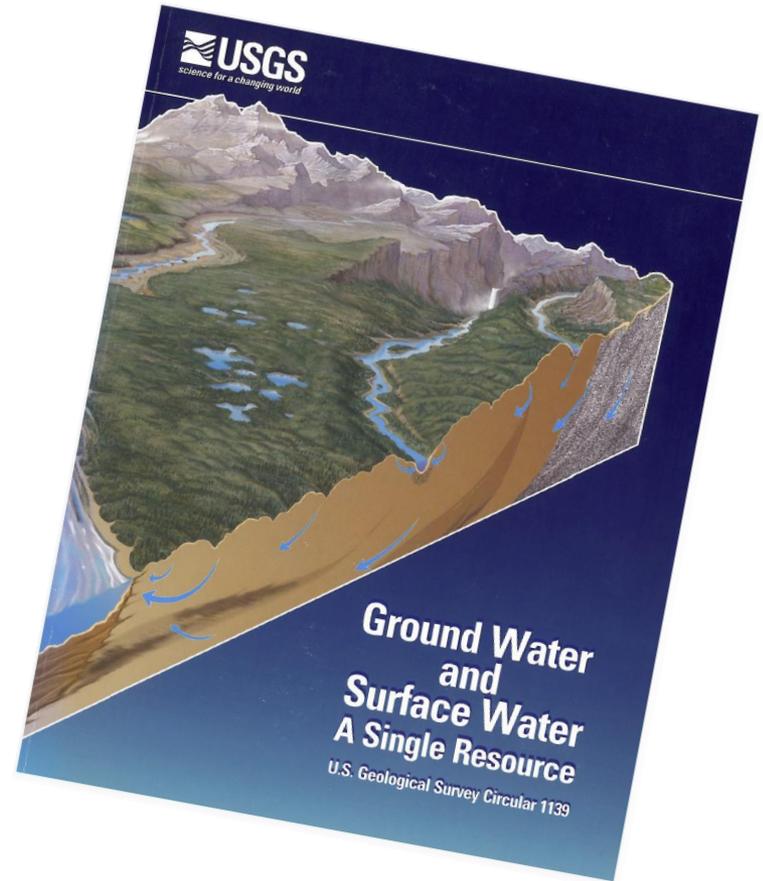
# Groundwater Hydrology Principles

- Groundwater and surface water, how are these connected or related?
- Where does water come from when pumping a well?
- What are groundwater models and why are they needed?

# Groundwater and Surface Water, how are these connected or related?

Important concept for understanding how groundwater works.

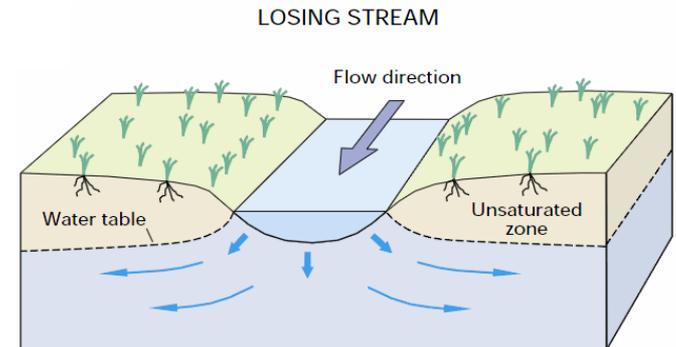
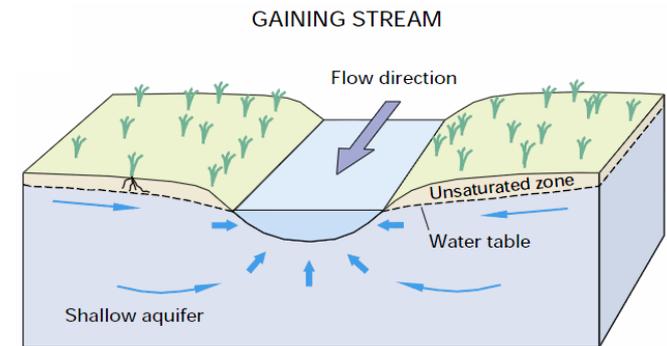
Understanding is necessary for proper management of Nevada's water resources.



Winter, T.C., Harvey, J.W., Franke, O.L., and Alley, W.M., 1998, Ground water and surface water—A single resource: U.S. Geological Survey Circular 1139, 79 p. <https://pubs.usgs.gov/circ/circ1139/>

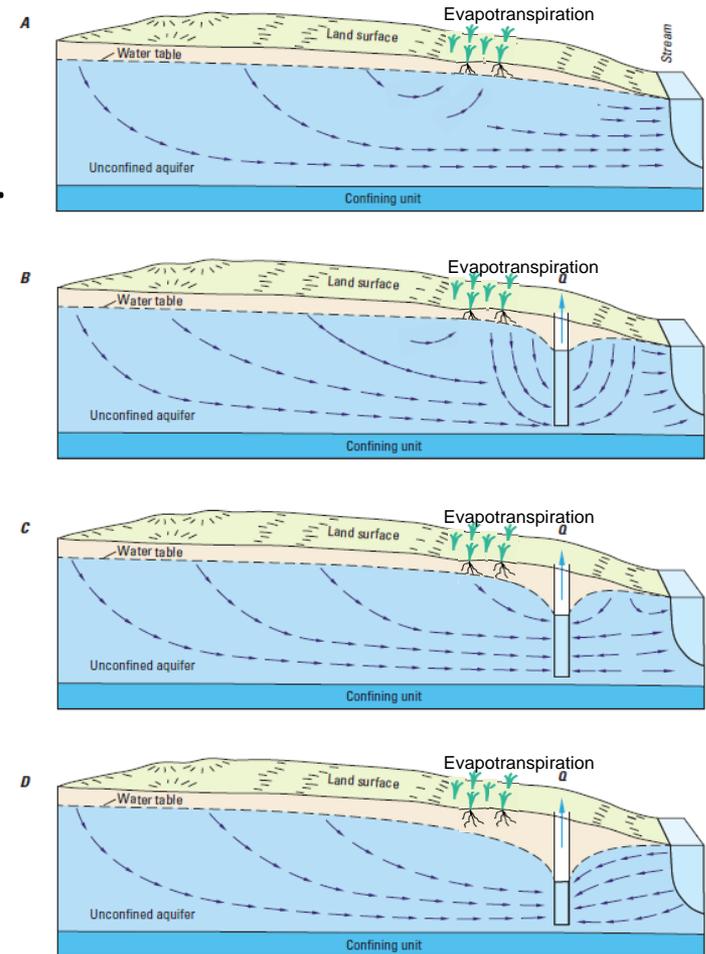
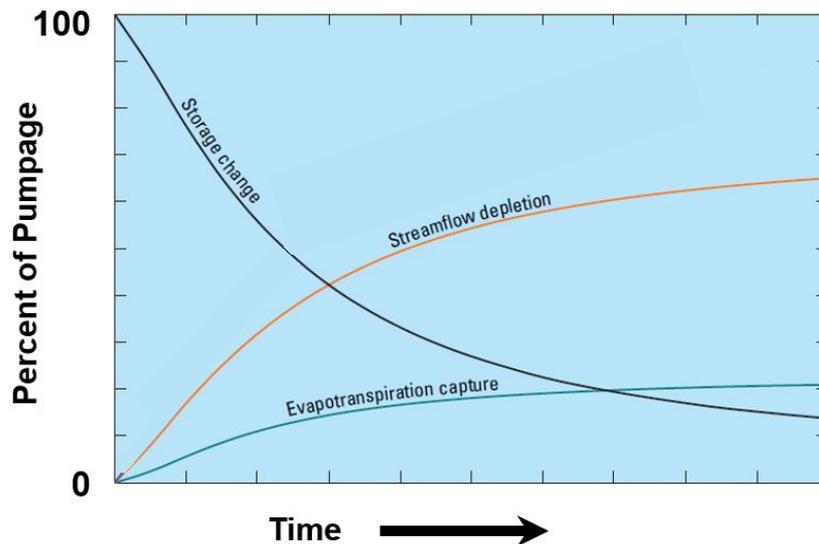
# Groundwater and Surface Water are a single resource

- Streams flowing year-round are connected with groundwater.
- Groundwater can:
  - Discharge to a stream (gaining stream).
  - Receive water from a stream (losing stream).
- Streams can:
  - Lose water to groundwater (losing).
  - Gain water from groundwater (gaining).



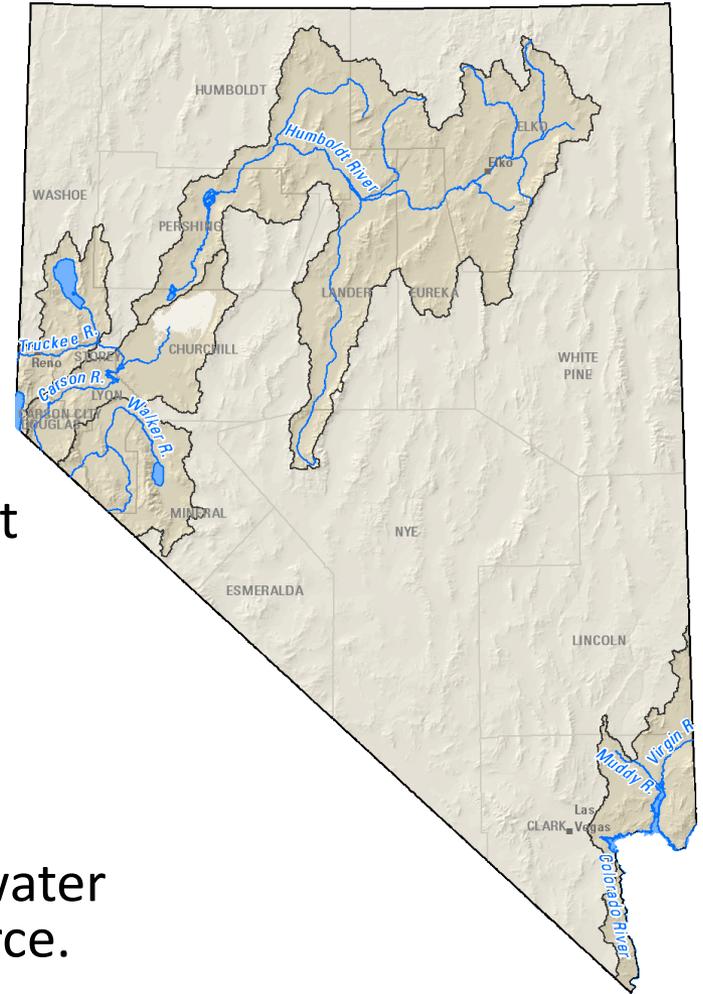
# Where does water come from when pumping a well?

- Storage change – water from ground near well.
- Streamflow capture – diversion from stream.
- Evapotranspiration capture – water intercepted from plant use and evaporation.



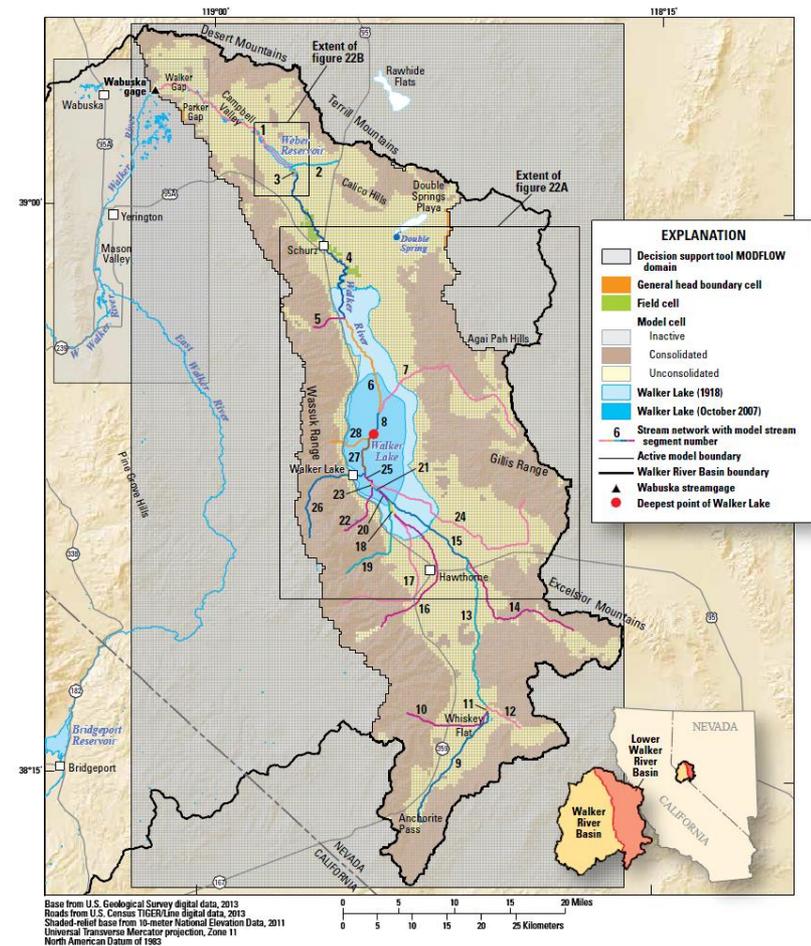
# River Connected Groundwater Systems in Nevada

- River connected flow systems.
  - Much of the groundwater movement between Hydrographic areas is by streamflow.
  - 25 percent of Nevada's groundwater systems.
  - Substantial potential for conflict between groundwater and surface water users due to shared nature of resource.



# What are Groundwater models?

- Mathematical representations of complex hydrologic systems.
- Simulate hydrologic systems based on principles, aquifer properties, and boundary conditions.



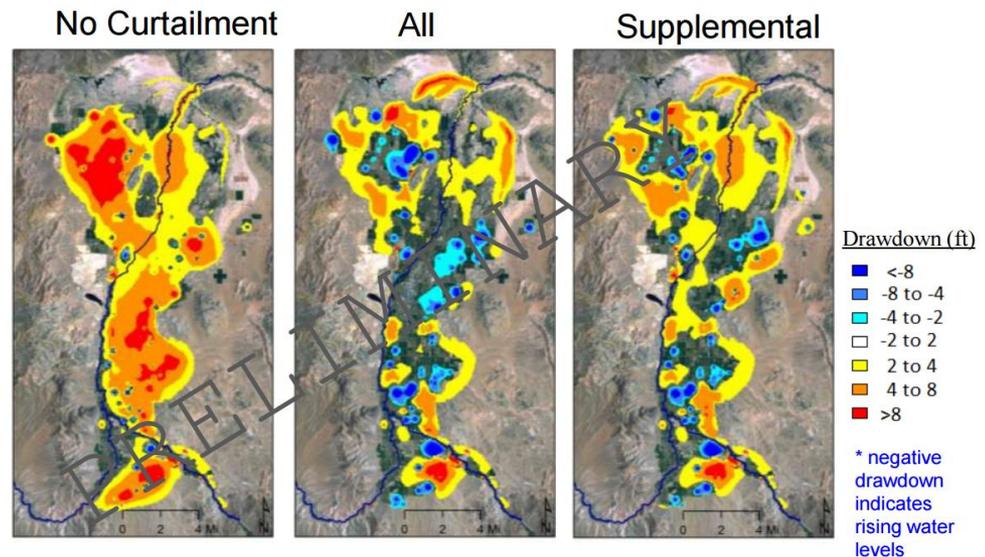
Groundwater flow equation:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[ K_{xx} \frac{\partial h}{\partial x} \right] + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left[ K_{yy} \frac{\partial h}{\partial y} \right] + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left[ K_{zz} \frac{\partial h}{\partial z} \right] + W = S_s \frac{\partial h}{\partial t}$$

# Why are Groundwater models needed?

- Use existing information and understanding to estimate properties that govern flow.
  - Referred to as calibration.
- Needed to understand complex system interactions and to inform results of management actions.

Aug. to Aug. Drawdown  
*Streamflow = 20%; Curtailment = 75%*

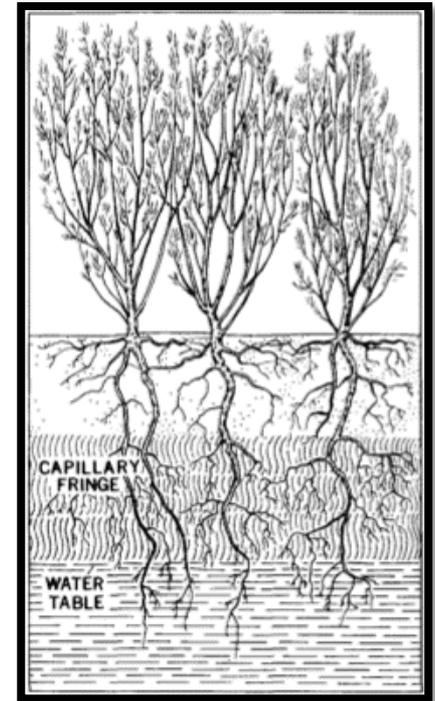
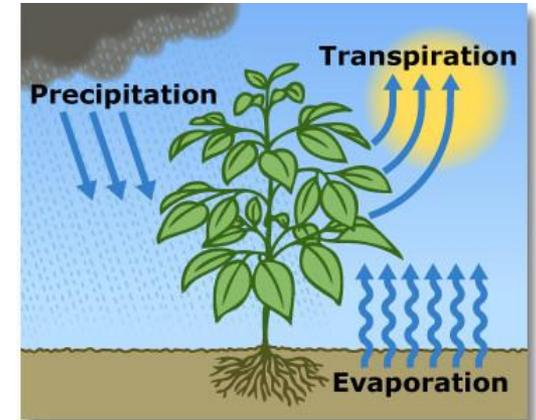


# Evapotranspiration

Matt Bromley - DRI

# Evapotranspiration

- Water recharged in the Humboldt River Basin is naturally discharged through:
  - Evaporation from Open Water
  - Evaporation from Playas
  - Transpiration from Phreatophytes  
(plants that access and use groundwater)
- Evaporation + Transpiration = **ET**  
(EvapoTranspiration)
- DRI ET Task: Estimate annual groundwater ET for each HA of the Humboldt River Basin in order to support groundwater modelling efforts



# Subtasks

- Review previous groundwater ET estimates and develop a database of:
  - Groundwater Discharge (Phreatophyte) Boundaries
  - ET rates
  - ET volumes
- Modify discharge area boundaries based on satellite/aerial imagery and field investigations
- Apply new remote sensing and gridded weather data techniques to update ET rates and volumes

**Where are plants discharging groundwater and how much groundwater is being discharged?**

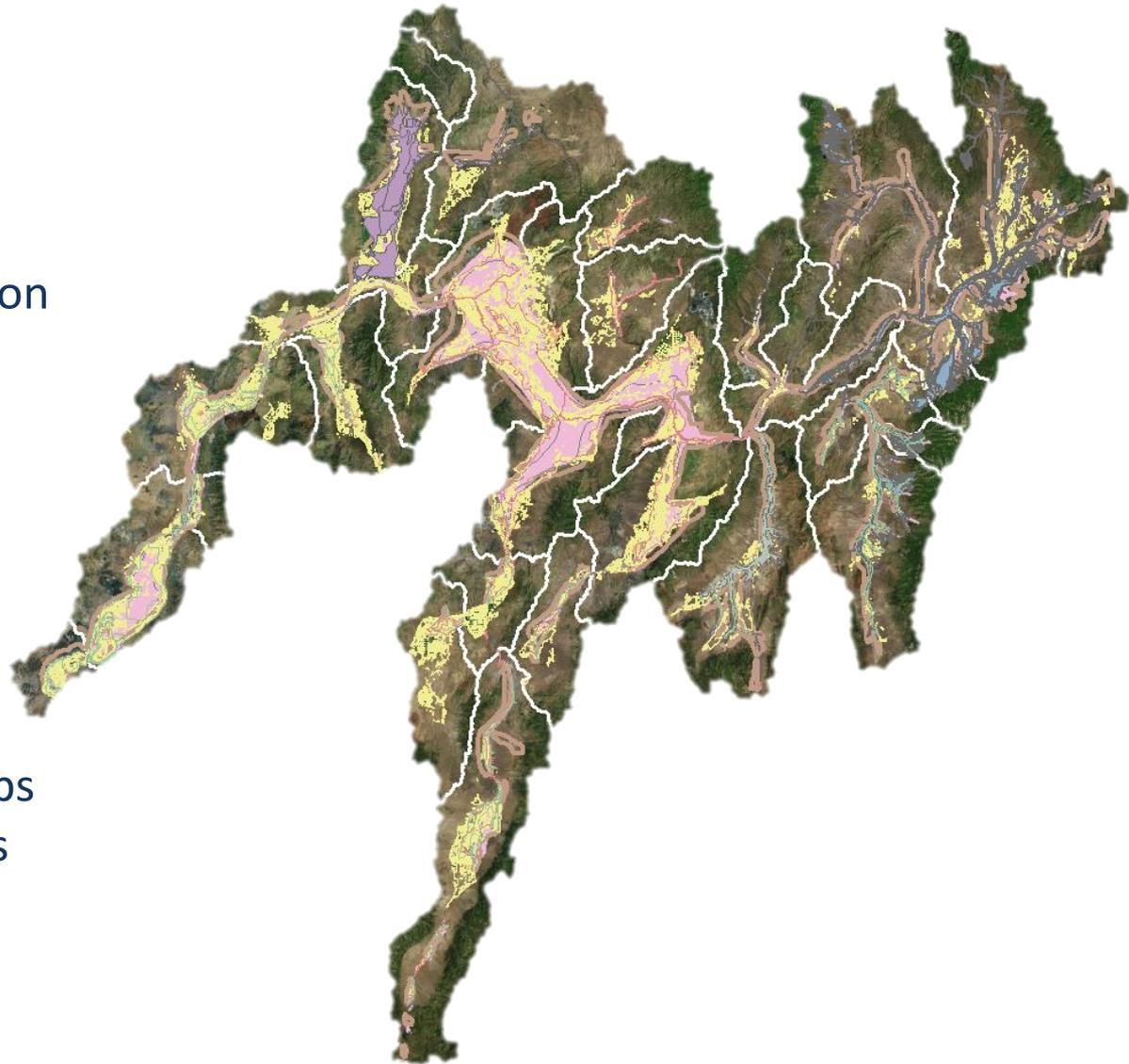
# Established Discharge Boundaries

## Previous Studies

- Reconnaissance Reports
- Water Resource Bulletins
- Water-Resource Investigation Reports
- Other reports

## Sources of Error in Previous Boundaries

- Limitations in data
- Some studies used specific assumptions or relationships to estimate discharge areas
- Changes over time

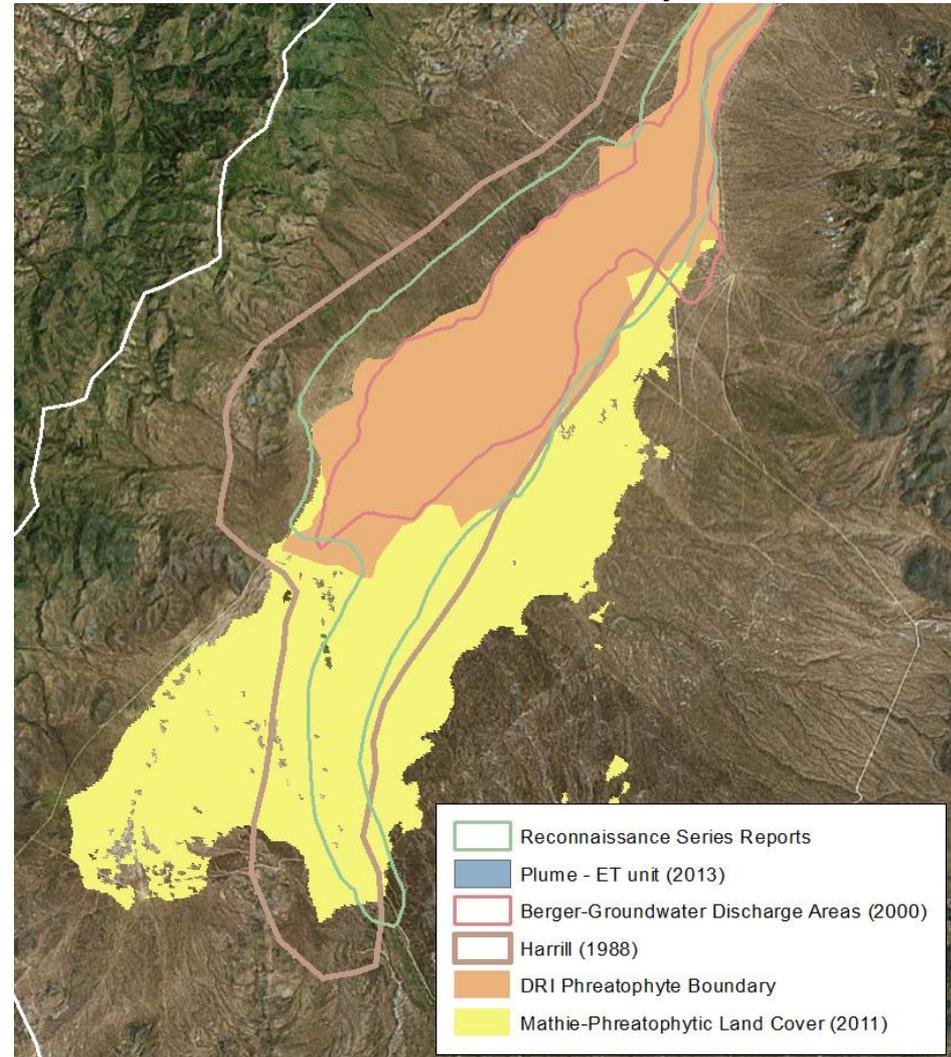


# Development of Hybrid Boundaries

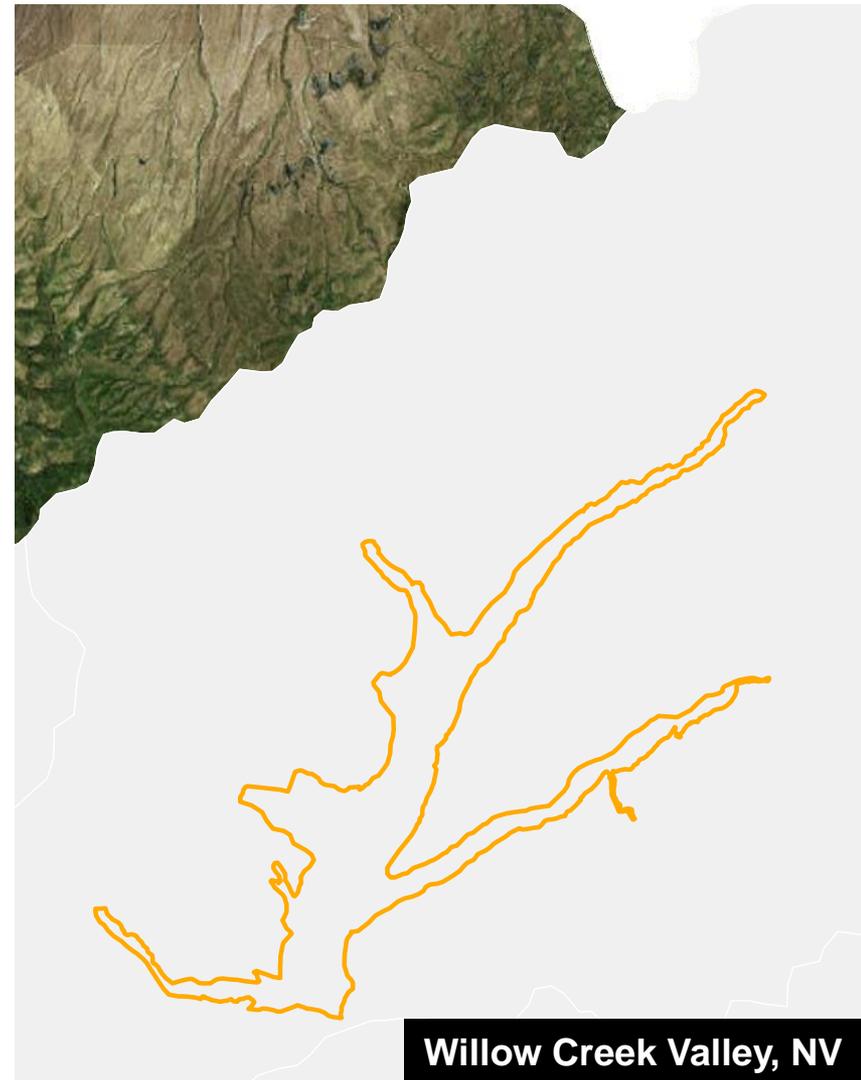
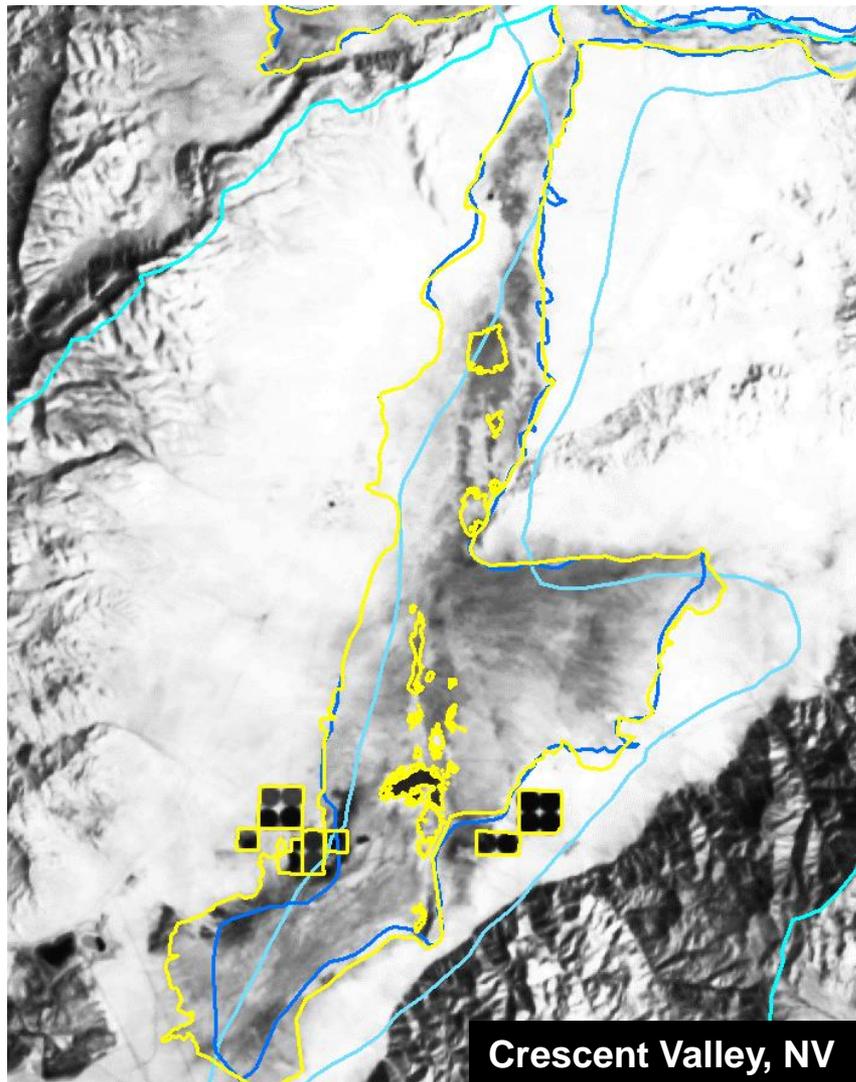
- Assess previous boundaries
  - Historical Landsat satellite imagery
  - High resolution aerial imagery
  - Digital elevation
  - Field investigations
- Create new DRI boundaries based on multiple datasets

NOTE: Area is an important component in calculating volume, so correctly defining the discharge area in each basin is important

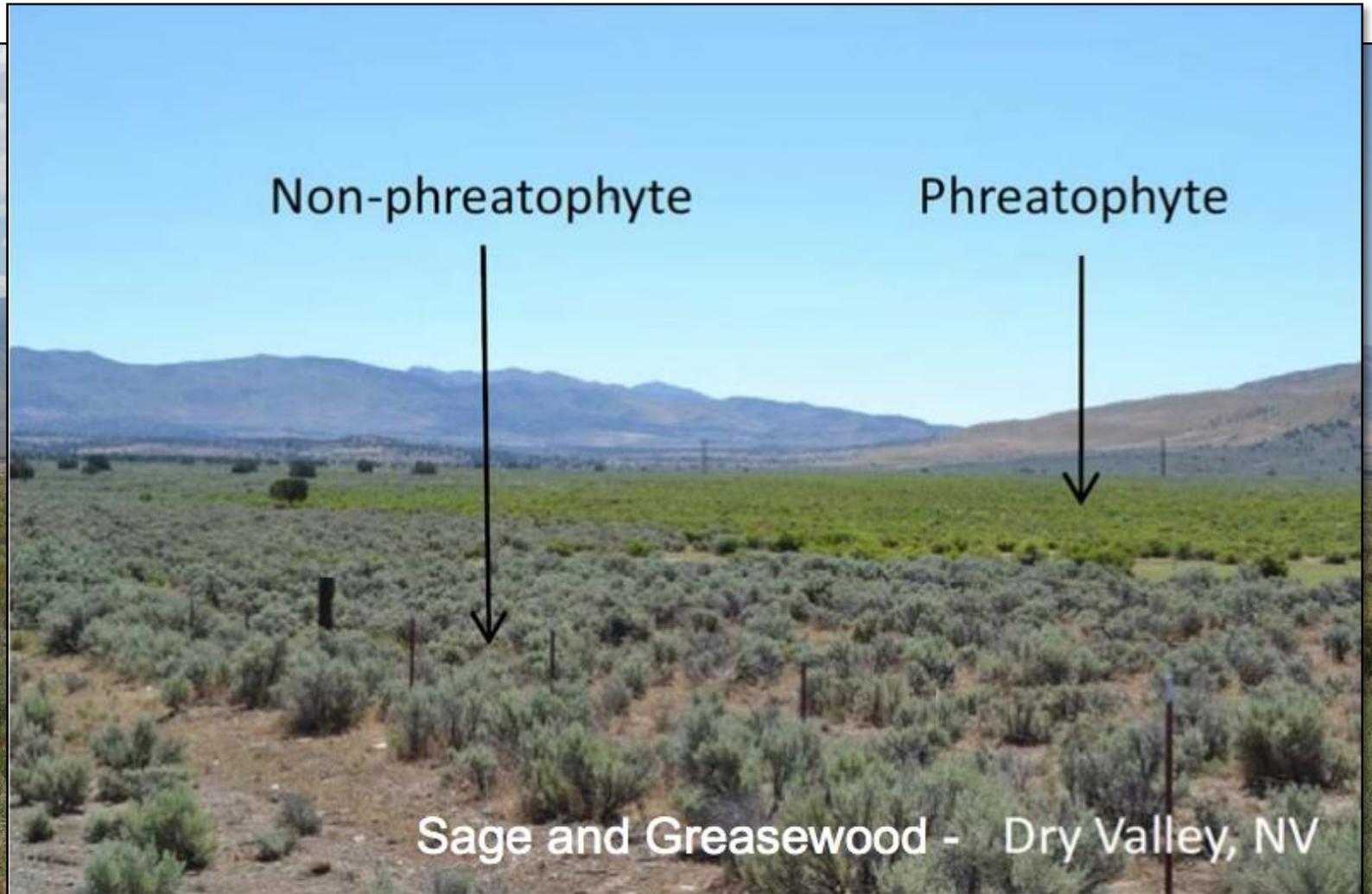
Carico Lake Valley



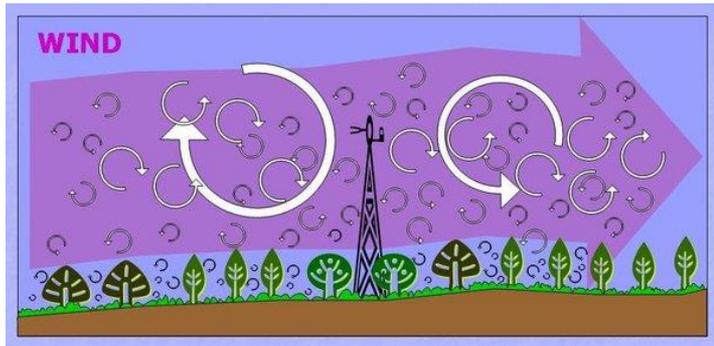
# Satellite and Aerial Images



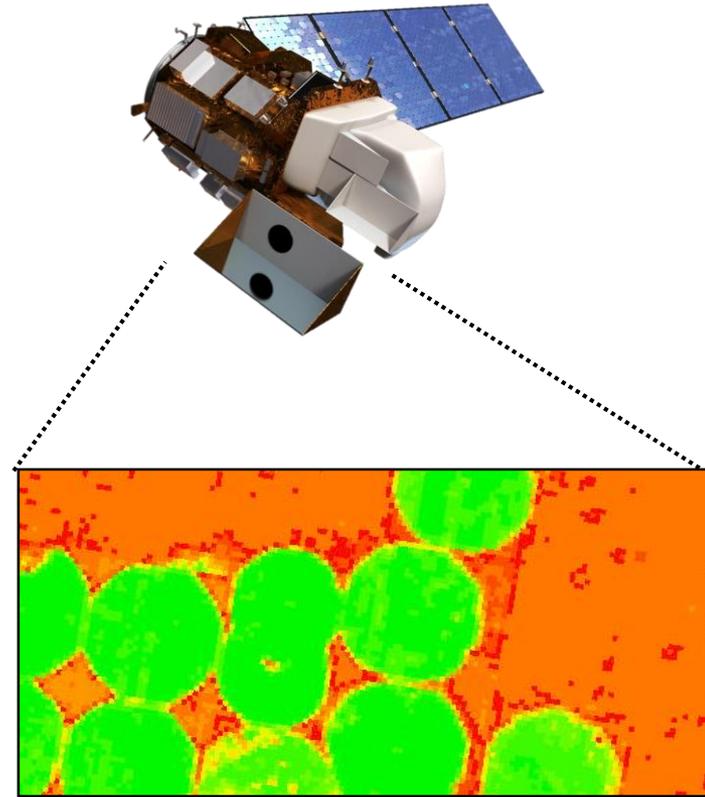
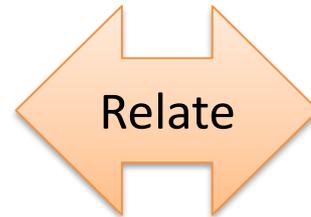
# Field Investigations



# Recent groundwater ET studies



ET measured with sensors



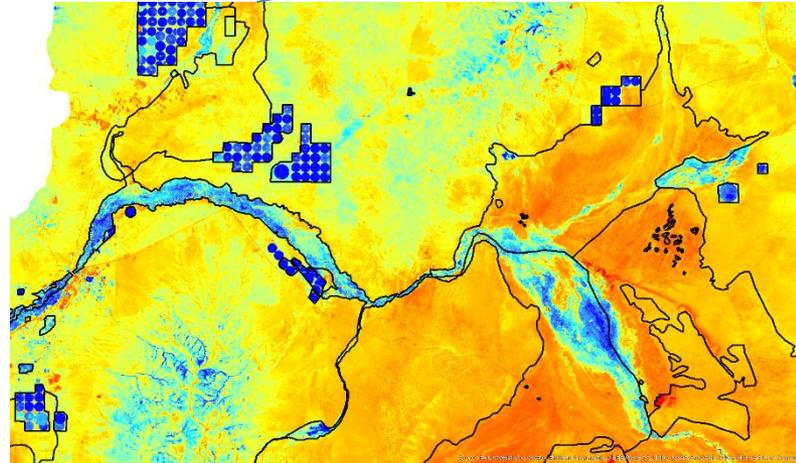
Mid-summer  
Landsat imagery  
(Vegetation Indices)

# Remote Sensing of ET

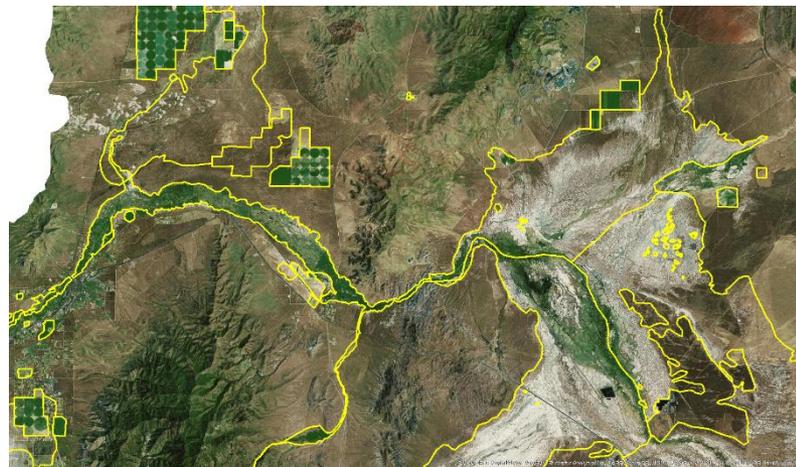


## Groundwater ET rates based on:

- Published regression model Based on 40 site years of measured ET from phreatophytes in Nevada
- Landsat satellite images of vegetation vigor (greenness) from 1985-2015
- Gridded weather data from 1985-2015
  - Potential ET (PET)
  - Precipitation (PPT)



Vegetation Index (30m)



True Color

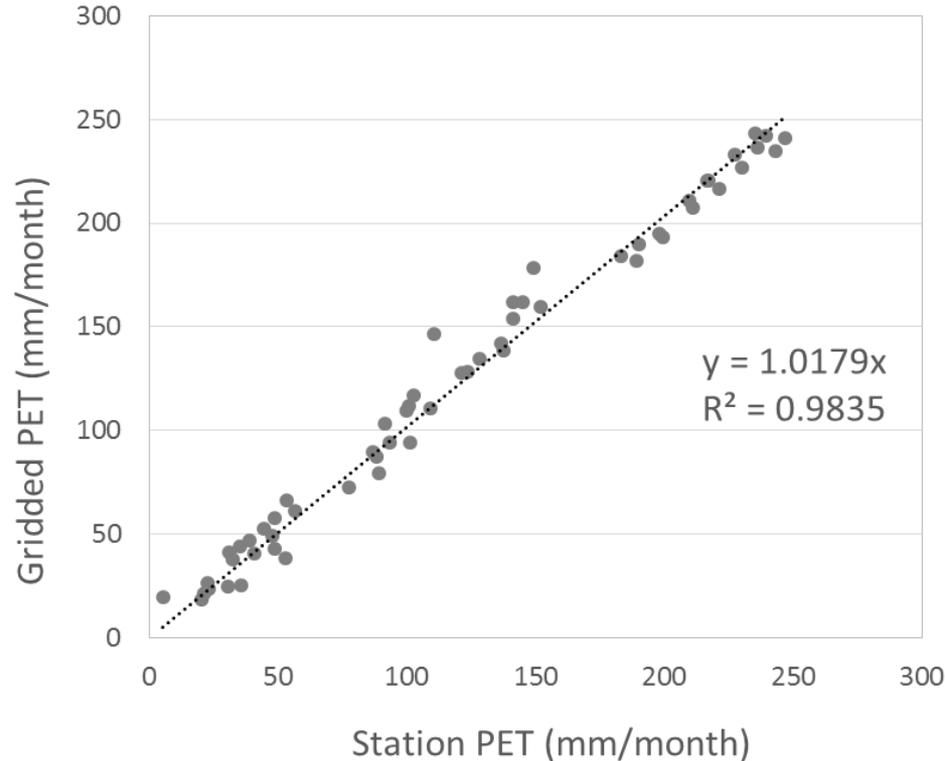
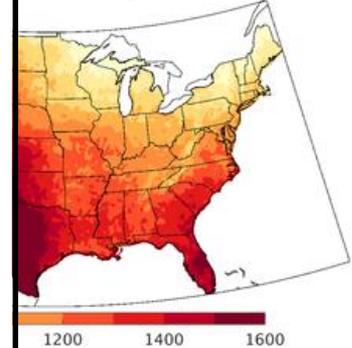
# Meteorological Data

Weather station data  
(Represents some areas for  
some periods of time)



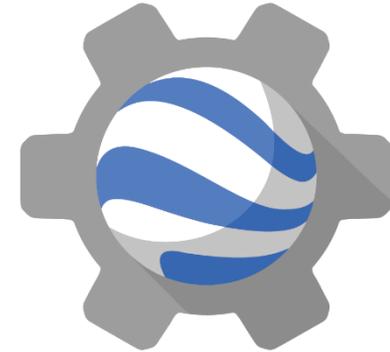
'Gridded' weather data  
(Covers the continental U.S. from  
1979-yesterday)

1 Jan-9 Nov 2017  $ET_0$  (mm)



# Data Processing

- Google Earth Engine, a massively parallel cloud-computing platform, was used to process the data
- Processed all areas contained in the DRI discharge boundaries
- Model applied to the Landsat image archive (years 1985-2015)



Google Earth Engine

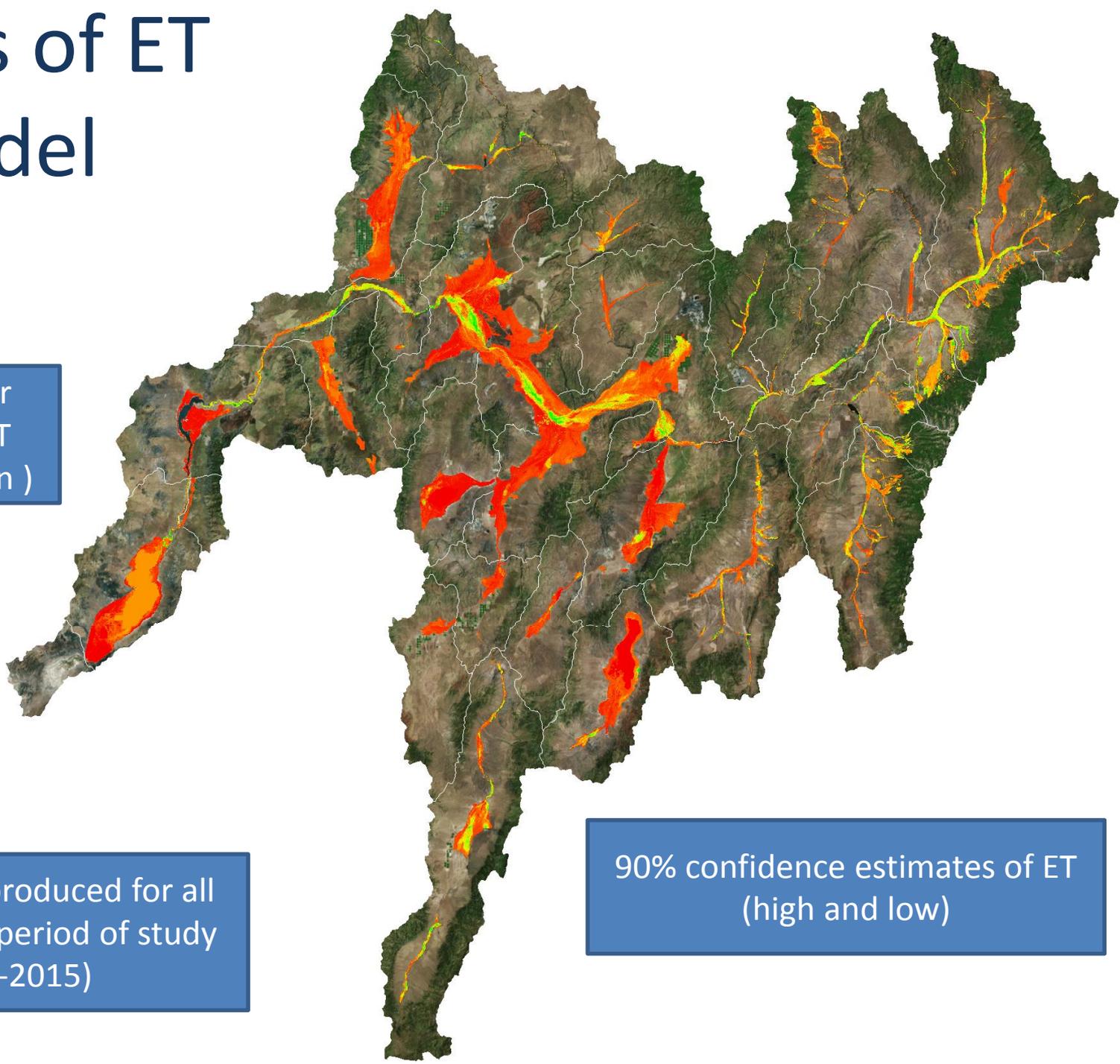


# Results of ET Model

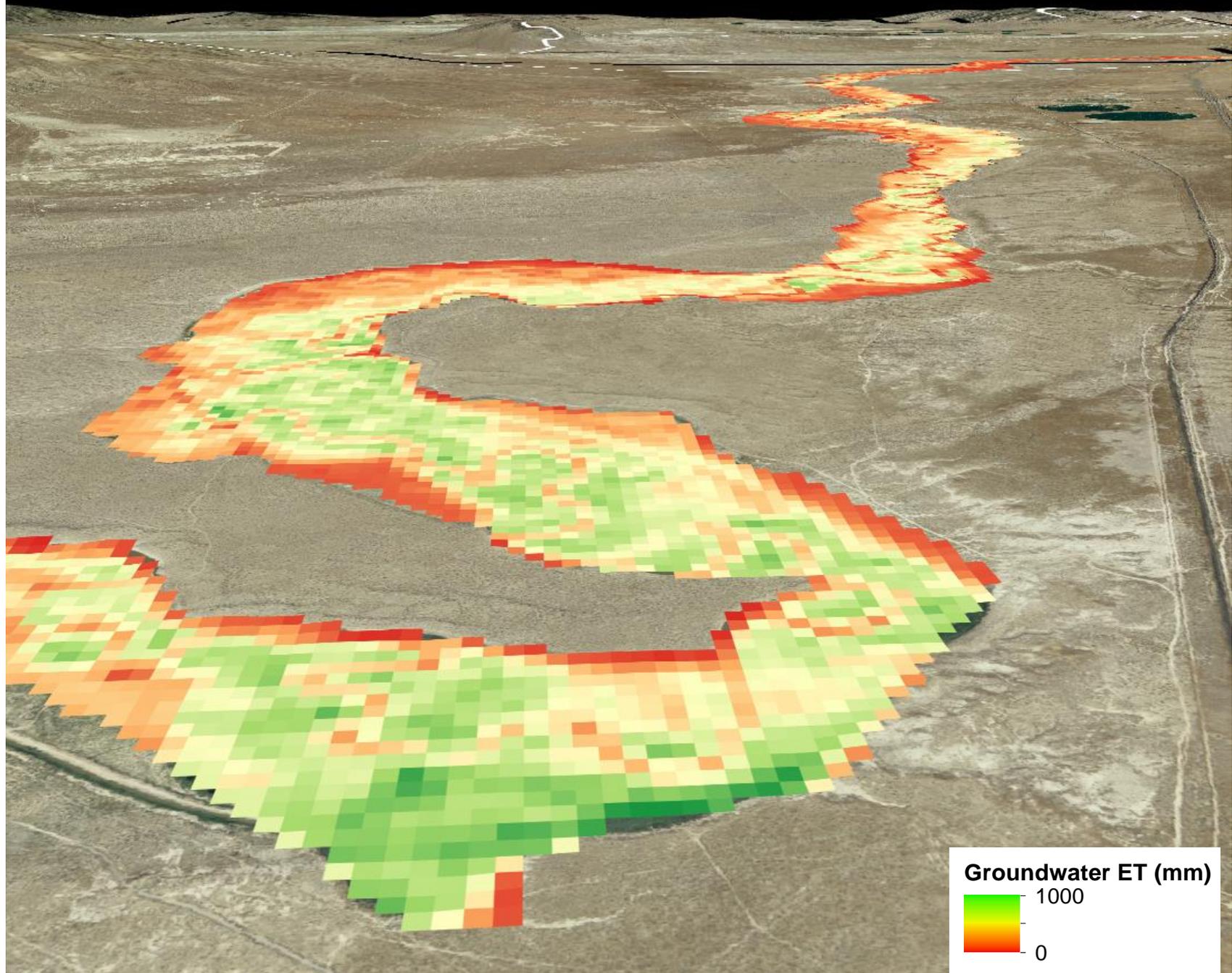
The groundwater component of ET  
( ET – precipitation )

Annual rates produced for all basins for the period of study  
(1985-2015)

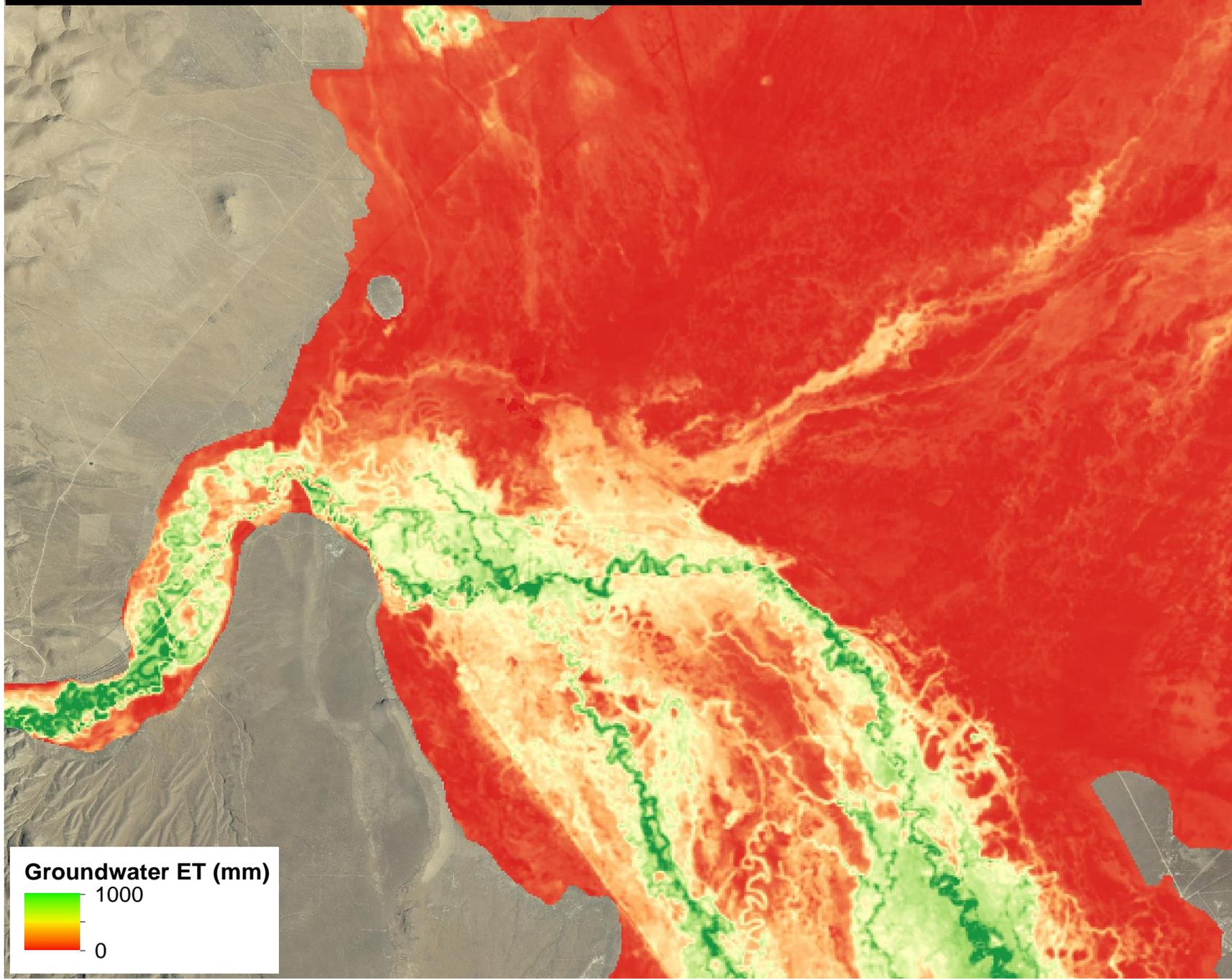
90% confidence estimates of ET  
(high and low)



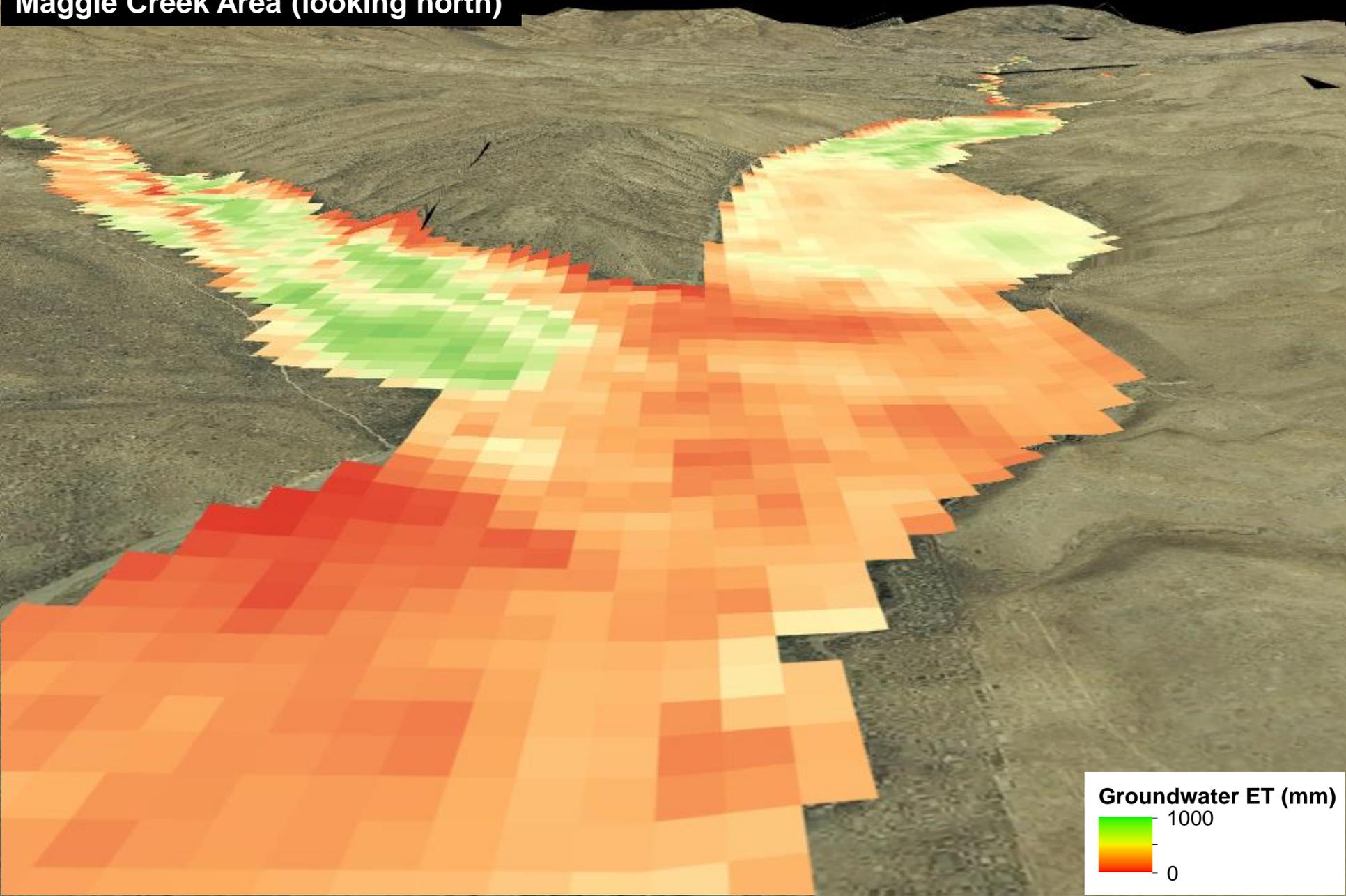
Imlay (looking northeast)



# Convergence of Kelley Creek Area, Clovers Area, and Pumpnickel Valley



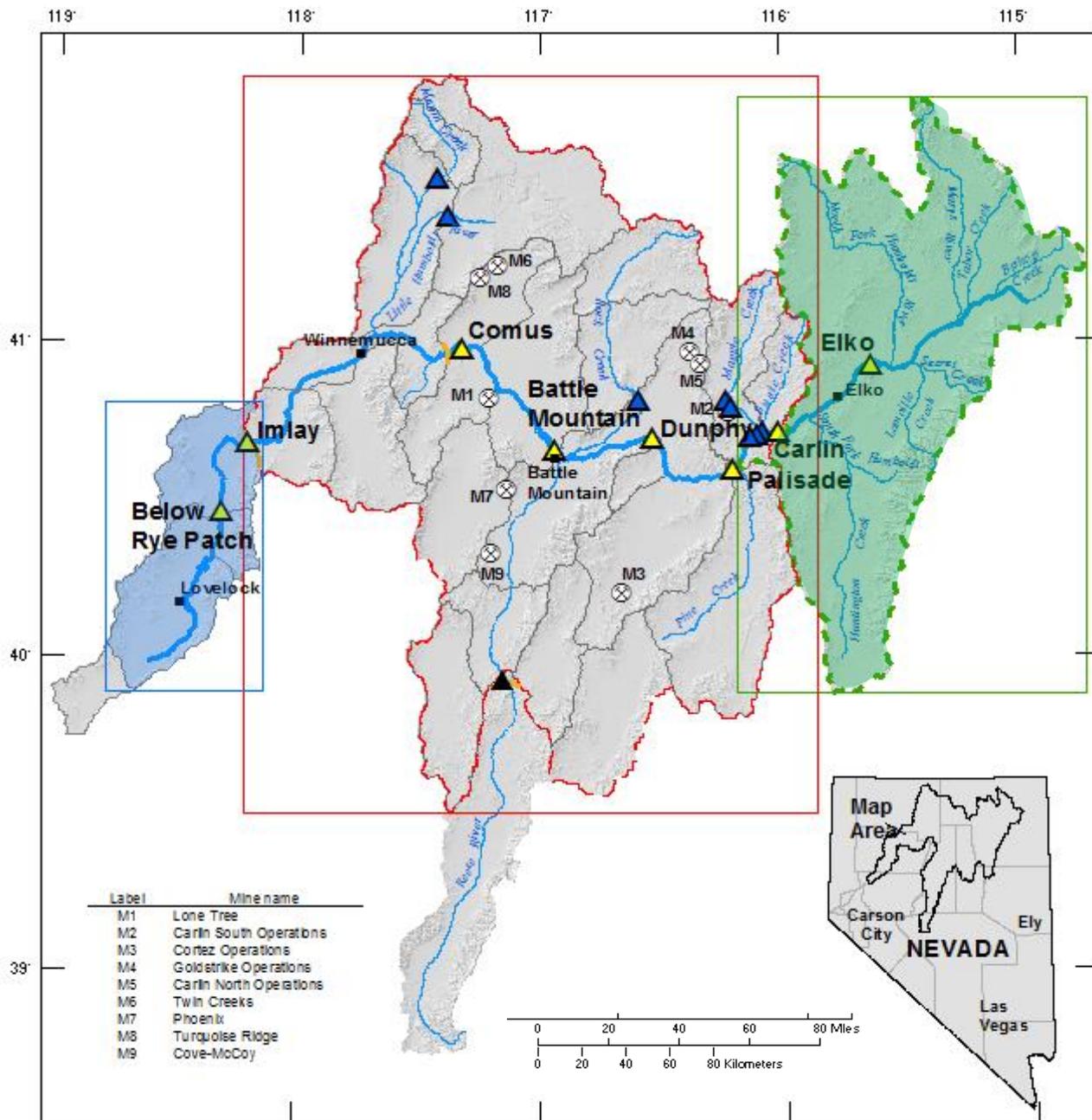
**Maggie Creek Area (looking north)**



# **Groundwater Models**

Upper Basin Model

Greg Pohll - DRI



- Upper basin model – DRI

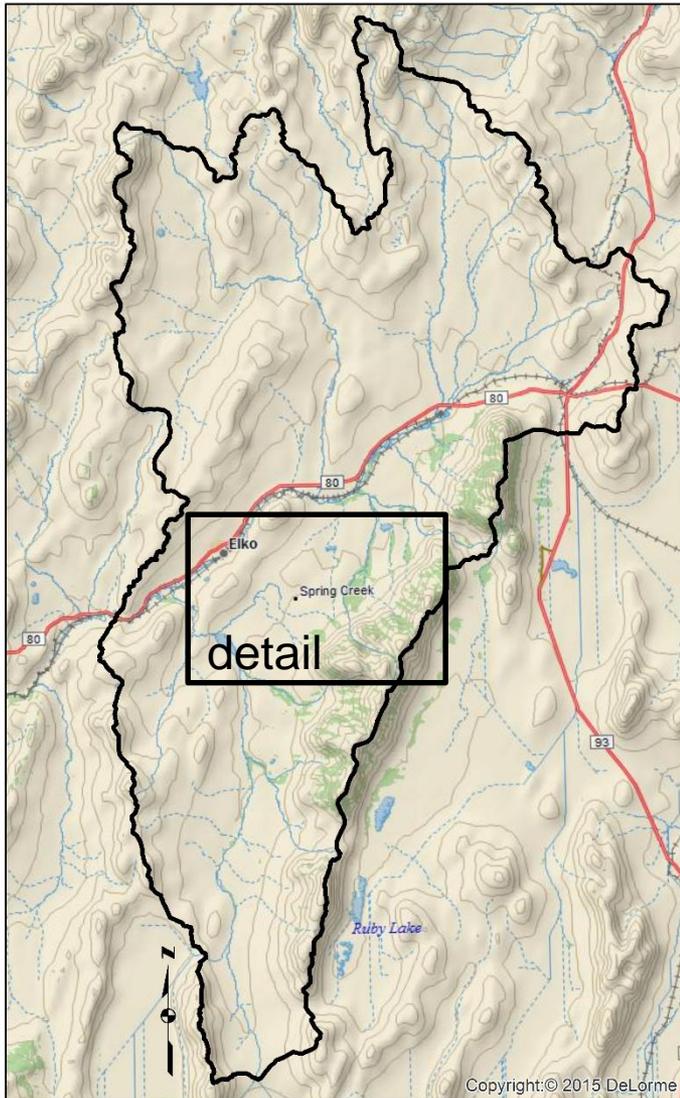
- Middle basin model – USGS

- Lower basin Model – USGS/DRI

# Outline

- Model grid
- Steady-state calibration
- Transient calibration
- Capture map
- Uncertainty analysis

# Model Grid



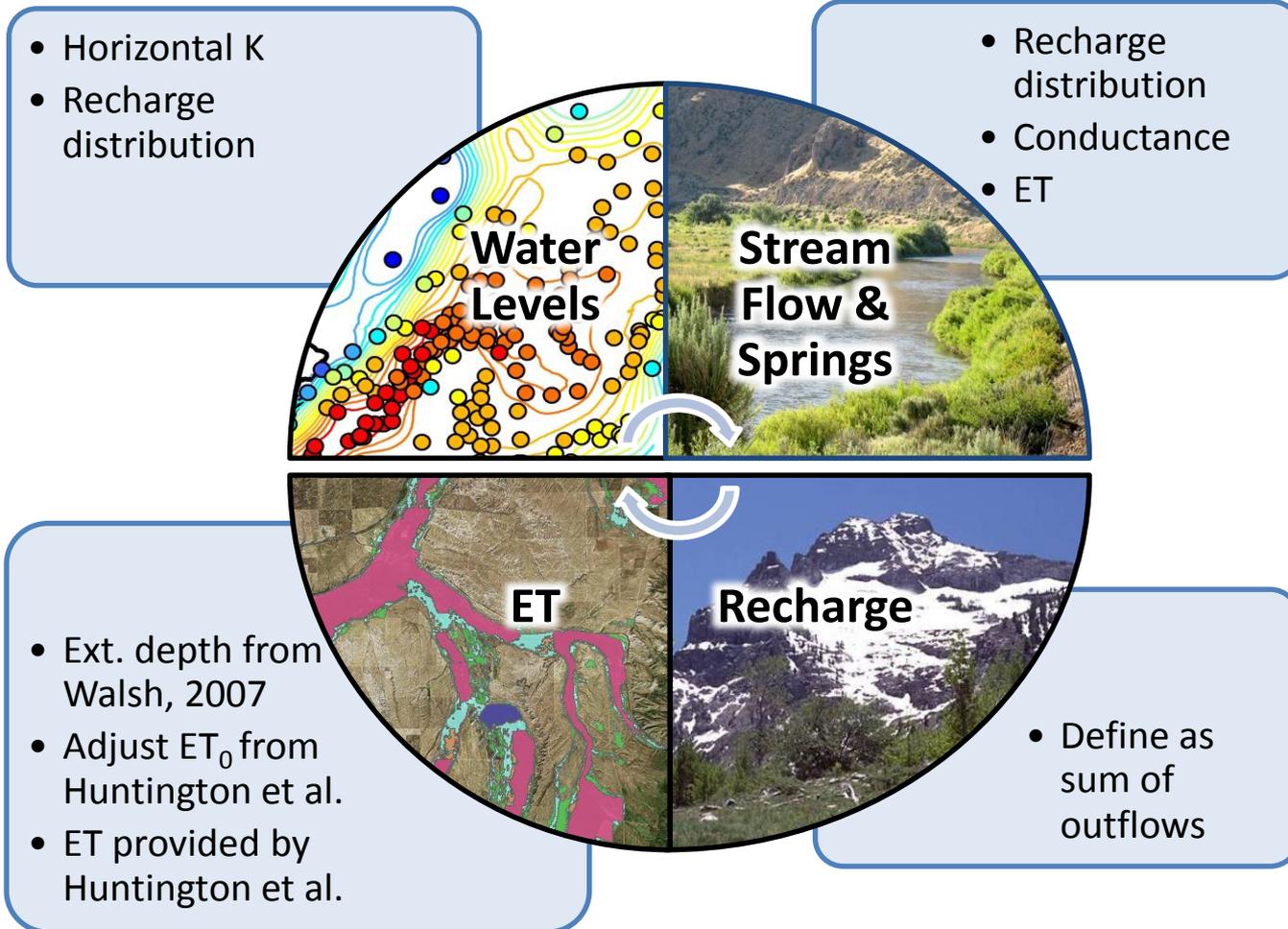
0 5 10 20 Miles  
|-----|-----|-----|-----|



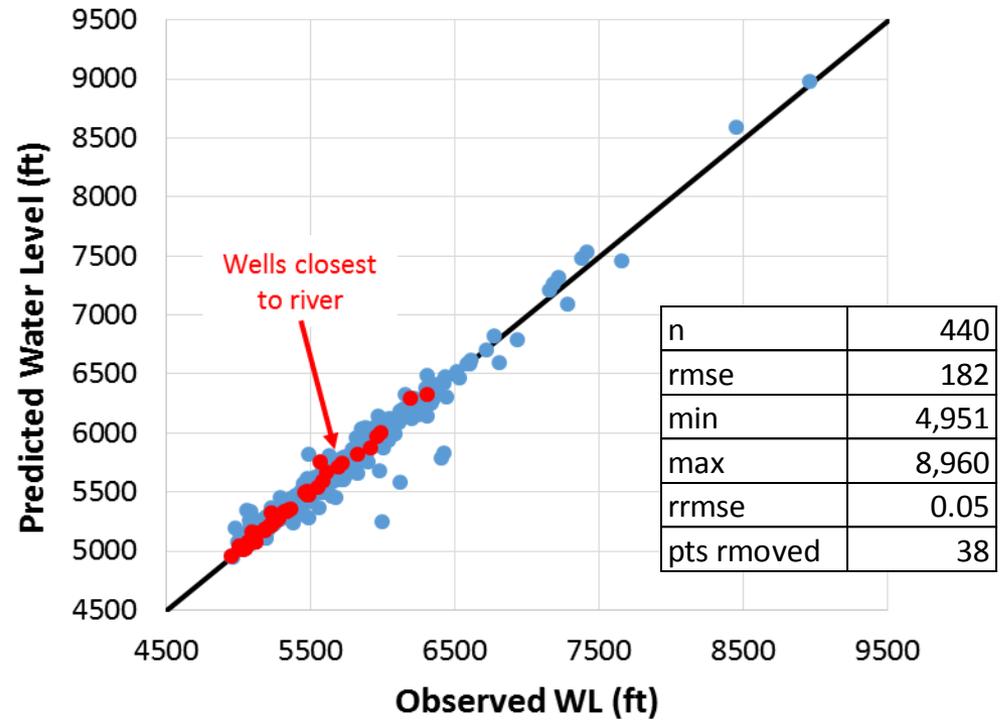
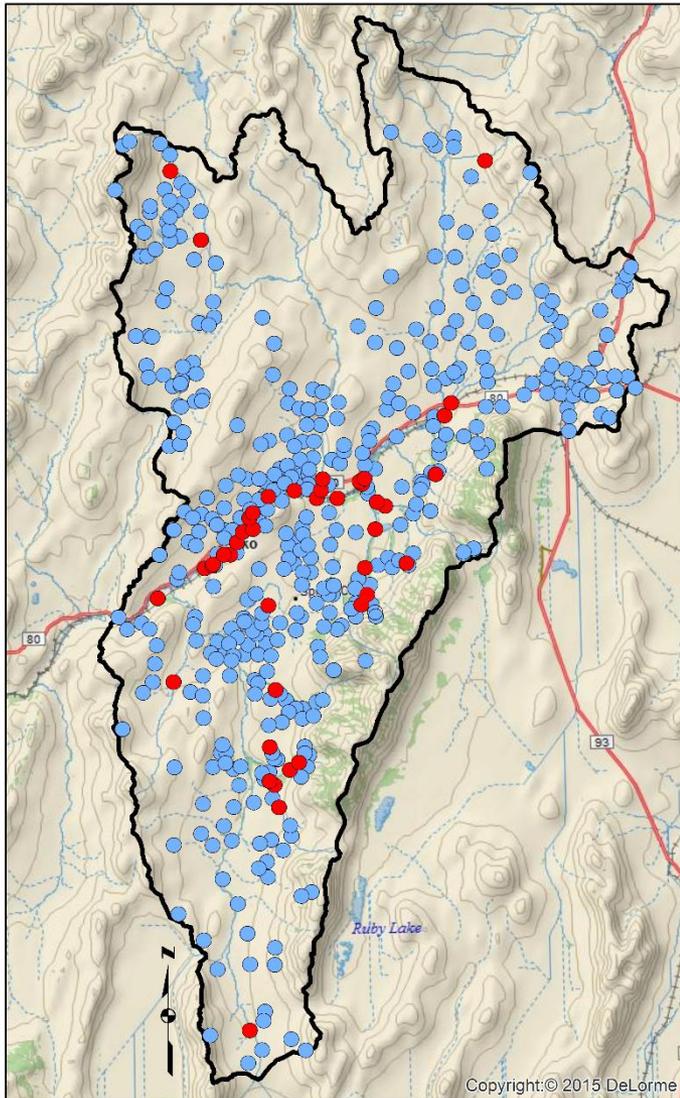
NWT Grid Improves over USG: (cell dim. 900 ft)

- Numeric stability
- Computational speed
- Wet/dry & unconfined conditions

# Calibration Strategy



# Steady State Water Levels

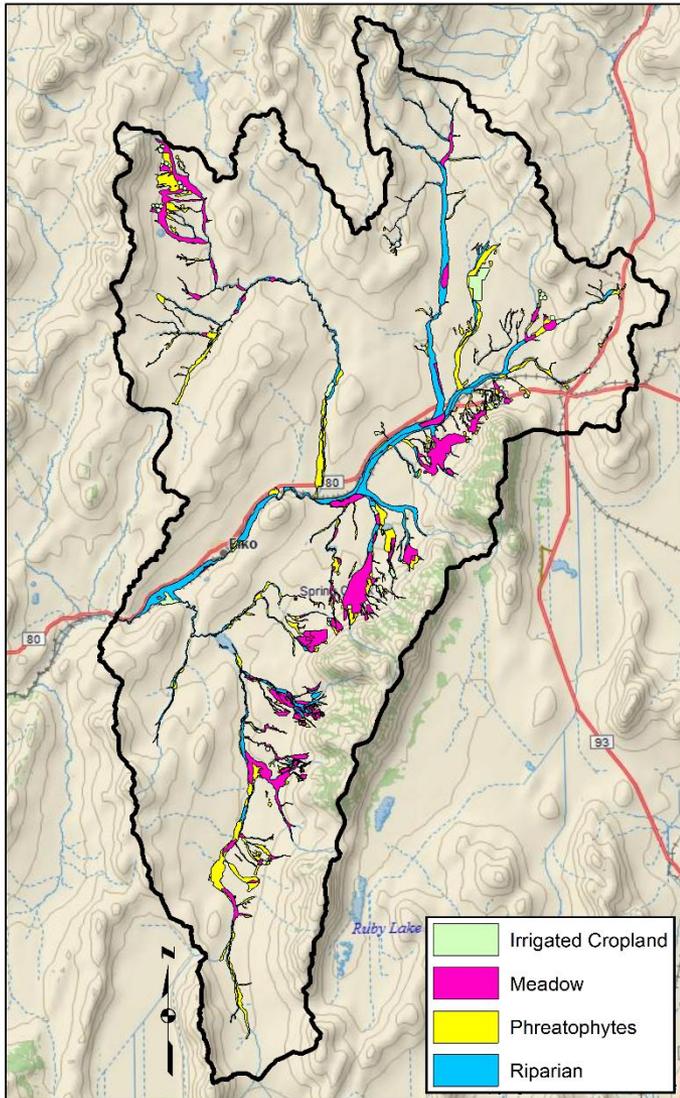


0 5 10 20 Miles  
|-----|-----|-----|-----|

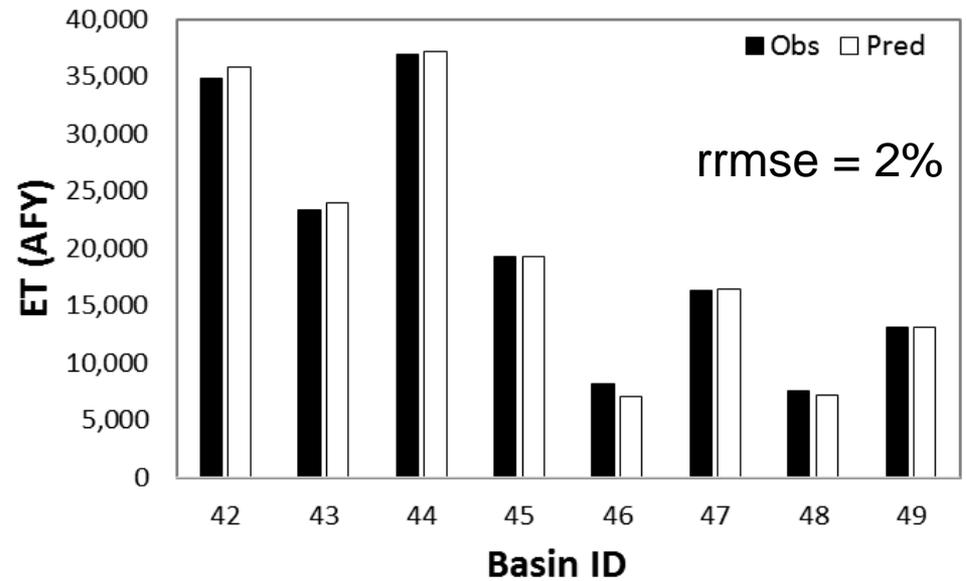
# ET Calibration

Total Observed: 159,592 AFY

Total Predicted: 159,927 AFY

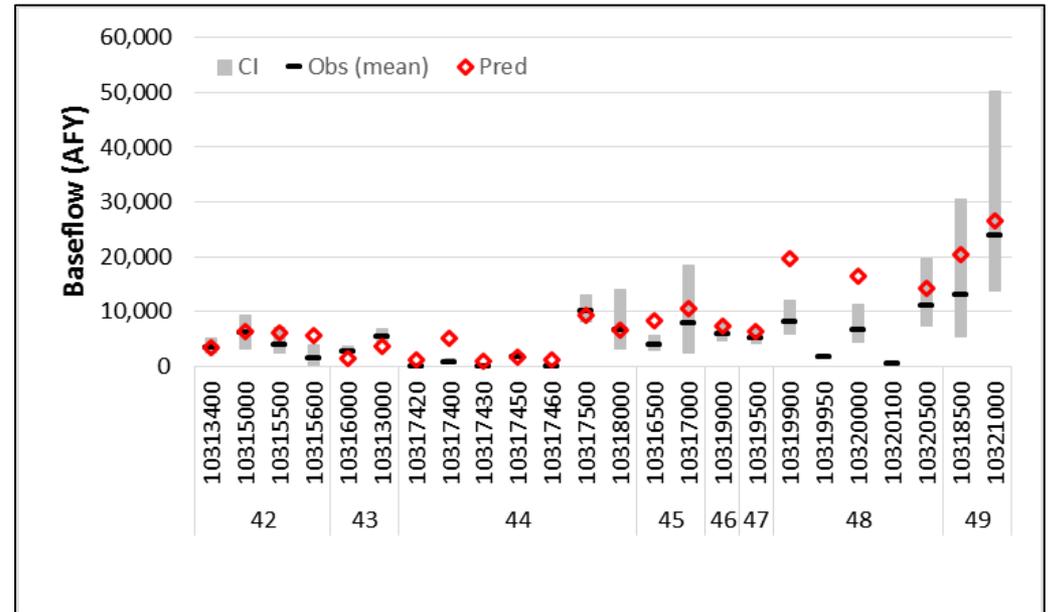
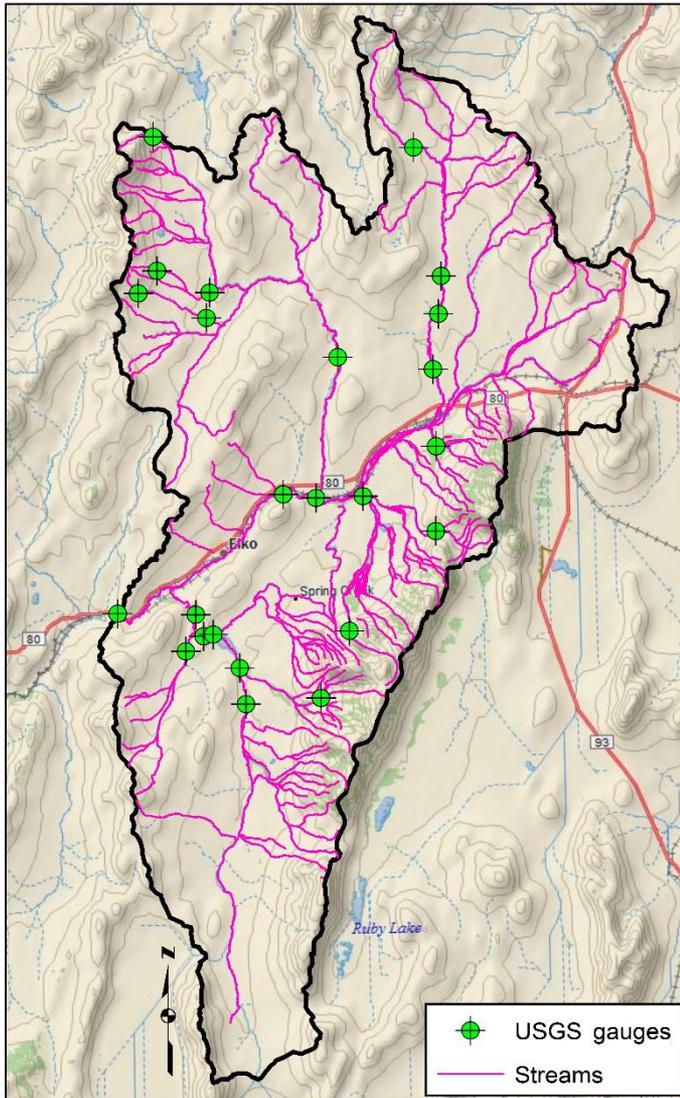


0 5 10 20 Miles  
|-----|-----|-----|-----|

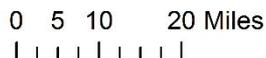


Adjusted ETo by vegetation type for each sub-basin to best match net ET

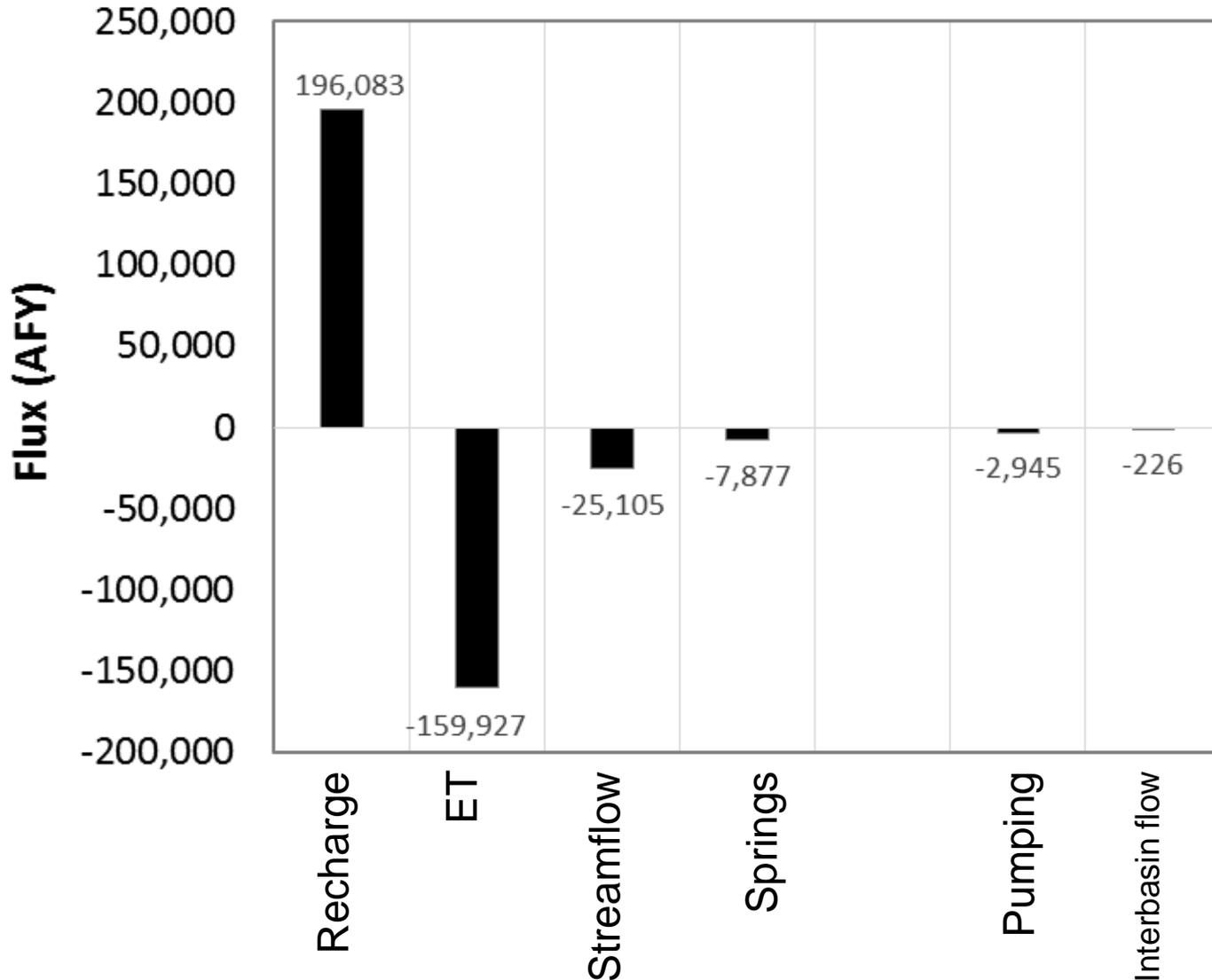
# Stream Calibration



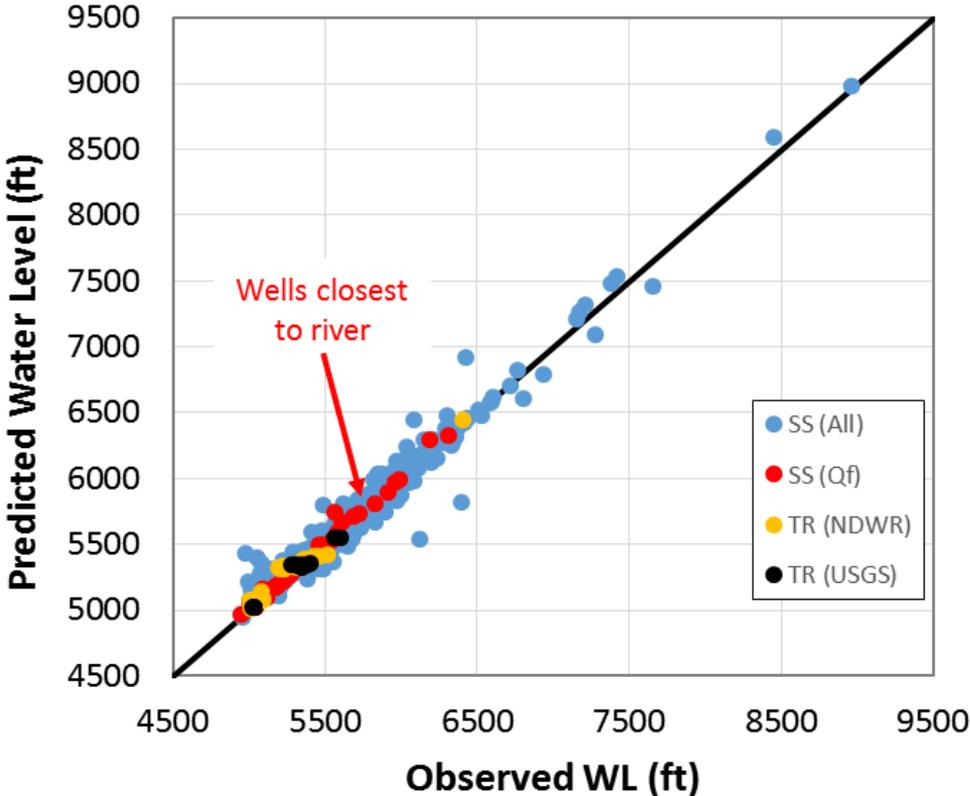
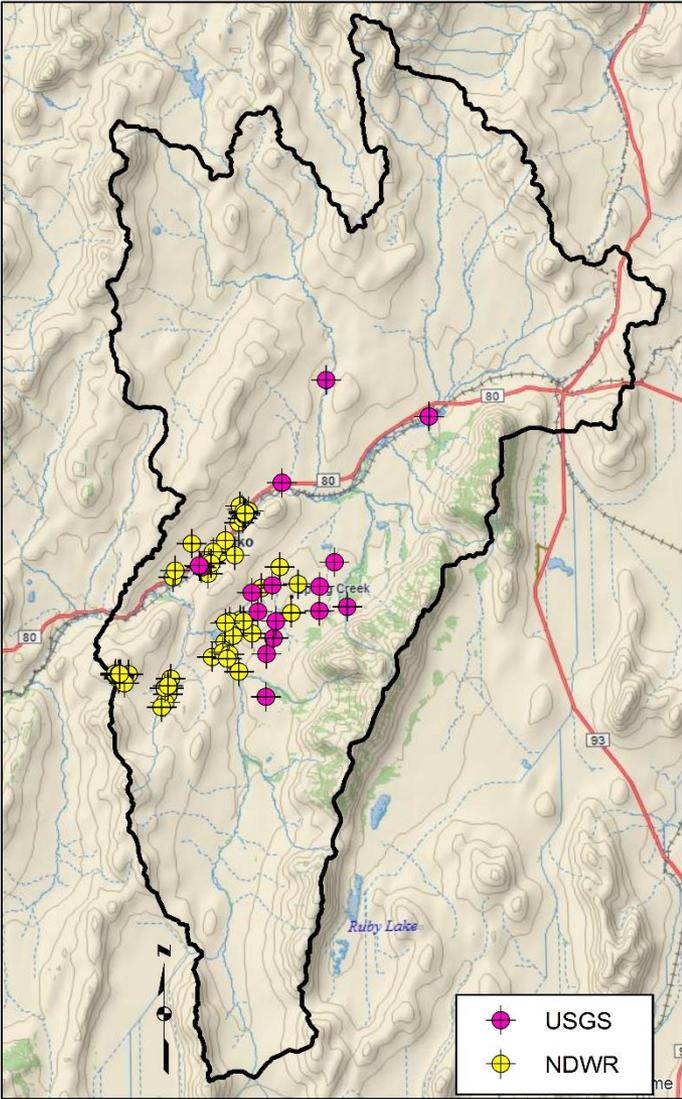
Recharge adjusted to best match  
 observed October and November  
 stream discharge. CI = 25<sup>th</sup> and 75<sup>th</sup>  
 confidence intervals for period of  
 record at each gage



# Steady-State Water Budget

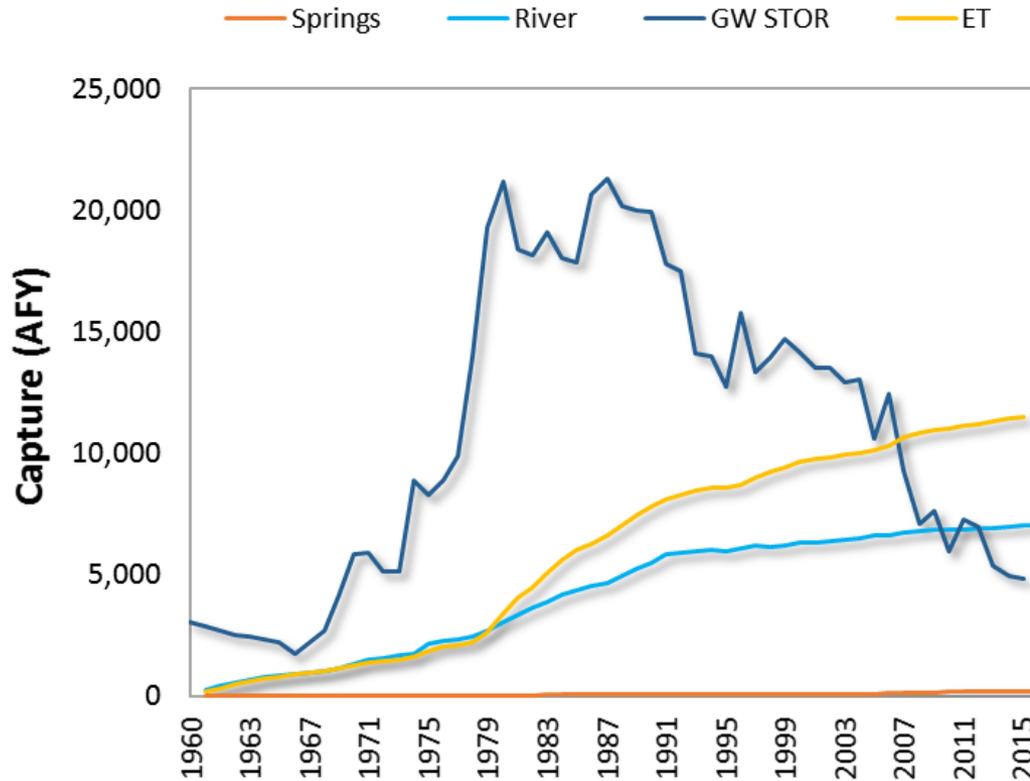


# Transient Water Levels



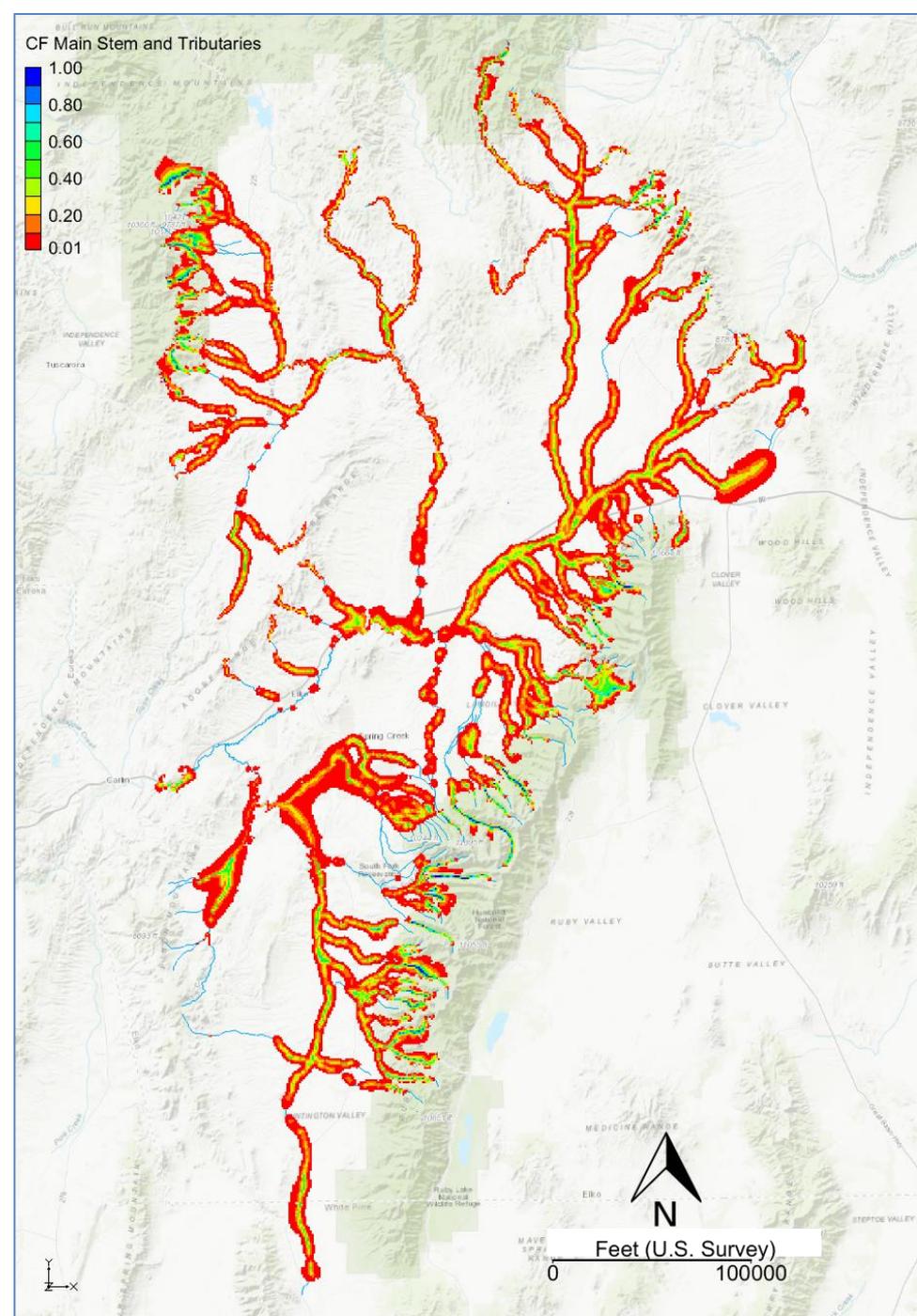
A comparison between steady state (SS) and transient (TR) water levels

# Basin-Scale Capture



	Sim. End AFY	CFS
<b>Wells</b>	-23,560	-32.54
<b>Springs</b>	203	0.28
<b>River</b>	7,022	9.70
<b>ET</b>	11,456	15.82
<b>GW Storage</b>	4,828	6.67

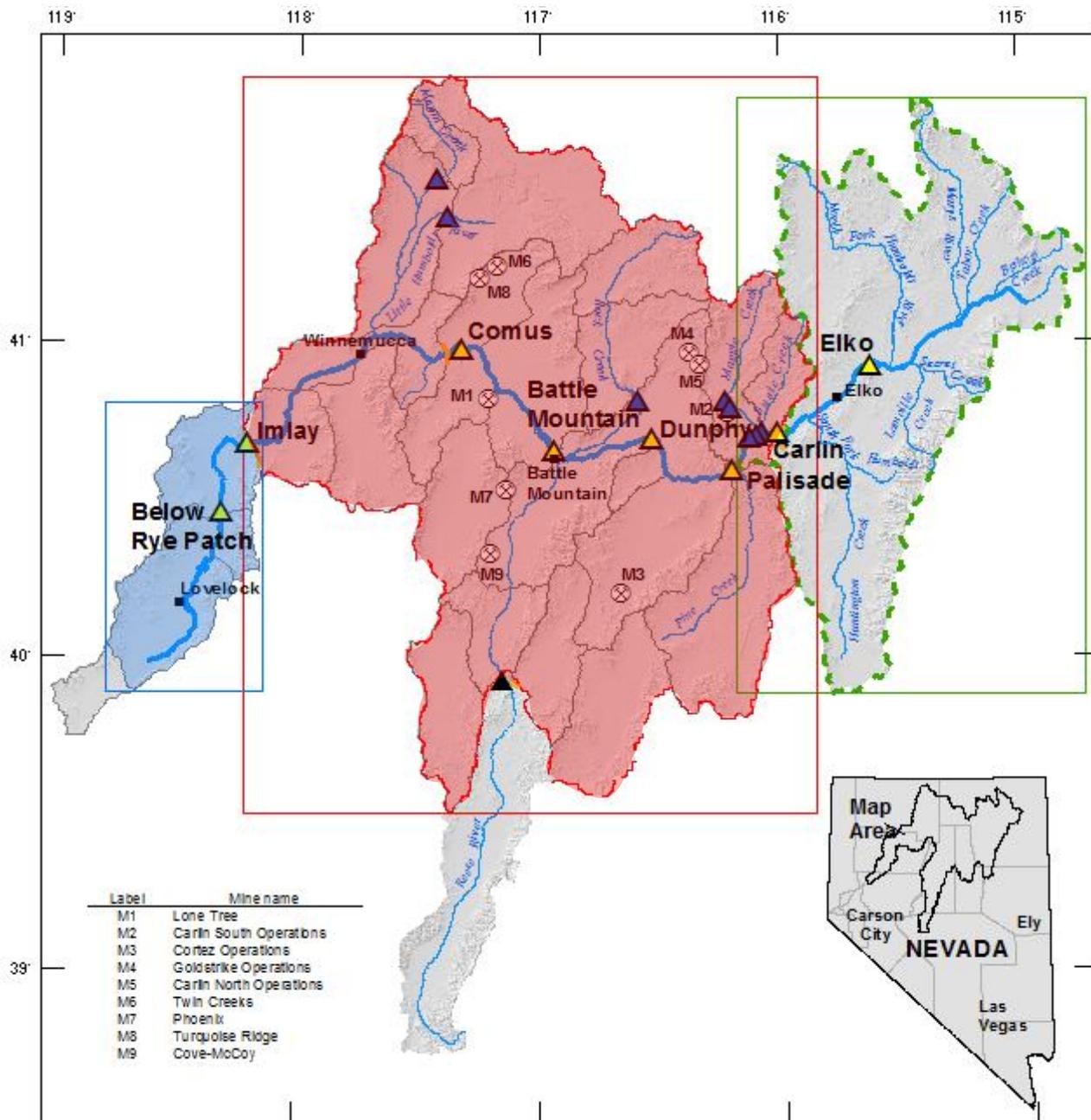
# Two-Year Capture Map



# **Groundwater Models**

Middle Basin Model

Kip Allander – USGS



- Upper basin model – DRI

- Middle basin model – USGS

- Lower basin Model – USGS/DRI

# Review

- Groundwater flow model being developed to understand capture of Humboldt River by pumping.
- Major tasks:
  - Assemble datasets: Pumping, water-levels, mine-water management, hydrogeology, stream network, etc. **~DONE**
  - Develop method for understanding limitations of capture maps. (Capture Map Bias) **DONE**
  - Estimate recharge distribution. **DONE**
  - Develop and calibrate model. **ONGOING**
  - Use model to estimate capture and impact of mine-dewatering. **ONGOING**

# Dataset progress through 2018

Completed or mostly completed:

2017

- Humboldt gage datums surveyed
- Depth to basement (basin fill)
- Humboldt River cross-sections
- Groundwater levels – USGS and NDWR data; data from historic reports digitized
- ET discharge areas

**2018**

- **Pitt-Taylor diversion**
- **N NV Rift**
- **Irrigation pumping**
- **Paradise Valley datasets**
- **Gumboot Lake dataset**
- **Additional water level contour data**

# Dataset progress through 2018

- USGS requires all data used in analysis be publicly available.
- Datasets published as they are completed.
- Following datasets released in 2017-2018:

Damar, N.A., 2018, Geospatial Data for the Northern Nevada Rift: U.S. Geological Survey data release, <https://doi.org/10.5066/F7SN0869>.

Hess, G.W., Plume, R.W., and Arthur, J.M., 2018, River Channel Cross-Sections, Middle Humboldt River, North-Central Nevada: U.S. Geological Survey data release, <https://doi.org/10.5066/F73X85WM>.

Nadler, C., Allander, K.K., Pohll, G., Morway, E., Naranjo, R., 2017, Evaluation of bias associated with capture maps derived from nonlinear groundwater flow models: Groundwater, vol. 56, no. 3, p 458-469. <https://doi.org/10.1111/gwat.12597>.

Ponce, D.A., and Damar, N.A., 2017, Depth to pre-Cenozoic bedrock in northern Nevada: U.S. Geological Survey data release, <https://doi.org/10.5066/F75B01DD> . (Bulletin 2218 2-km pre-cenozoic basement)

Smith, J.L., Warmath, Eric, and Medina, R.L., 2017, Groundwater discharge areas for the 14 hydrographic areas in the middle Humboldt River Basin, north-central Nevada: U.S. Geological Survey data release, <https://doi.org/10.5066/F72805TT> . (WRIR 2000-4168: Groundwater discharge areas.)

Smith, J.L., Welborn, T.L., and Medina, R.L., 2017, Evapotranspiration units and potential areas of groundwater discharge delineated July 20–24, 2009 in the upper Humboldt River Basin, northeastern Nevada: U.S. Geological Survey data release, <https://doi.org/10.5066/F7668BN7> . (SIR 2013-5077).

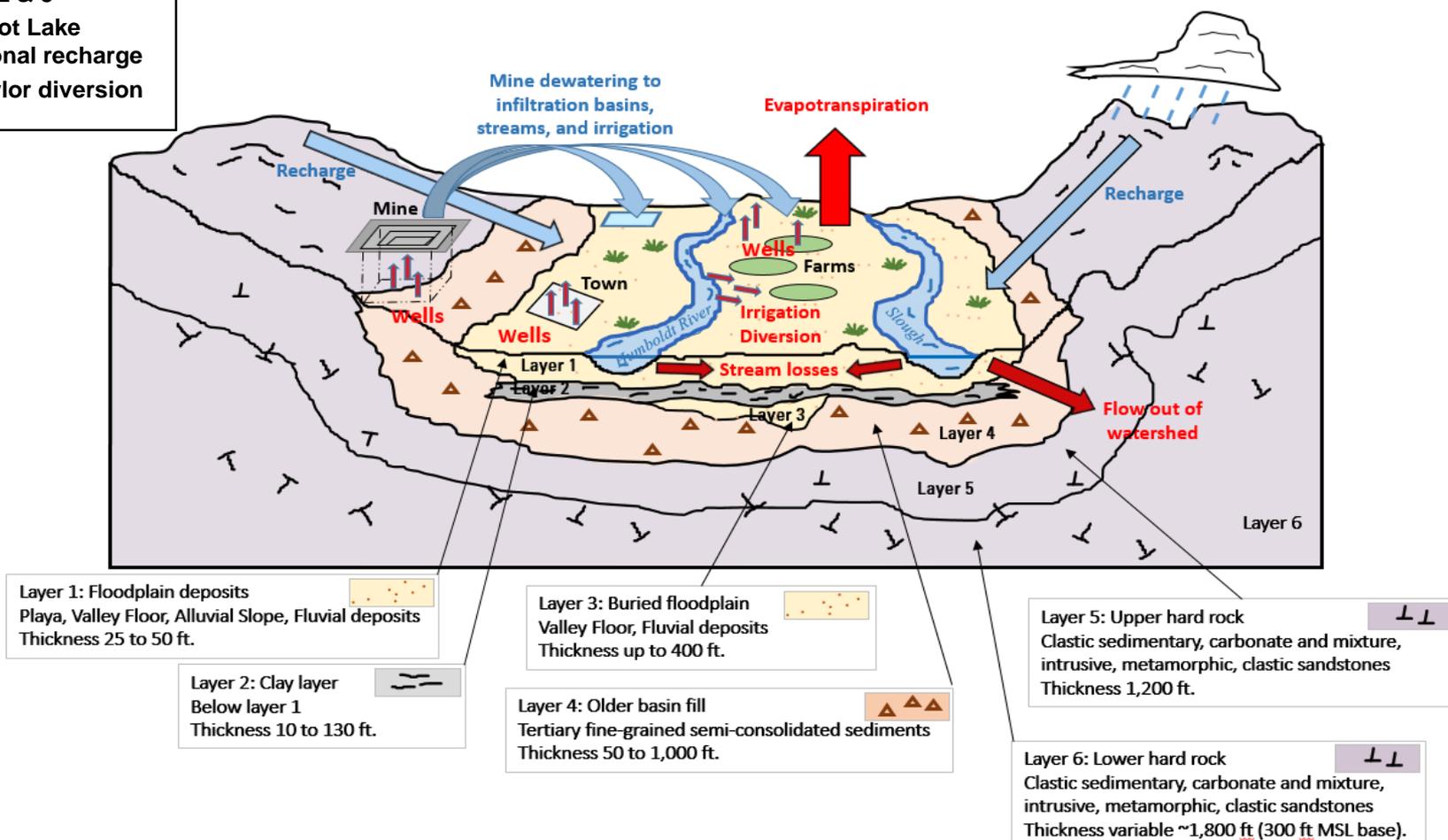
Welborn, T.L., and Medina, R.L., 2017, Depth-to-water area polygons, isopleths showing mean annual runoff, 1912-1963, and water-level altitude contours for the Humboldt River Basin, Nevada: U.S. Geological Survey data release, <https://dx.doi.org/10.5066/F7XW4GXC> . (Bulletin 32 datasets: water levels, water level altitude, isopleths of mean annual runoff.)

# Model Development and Calibration

## – Conceptual Model

### 2018 Model additions:

- Defined irrigated areas to better account for ETg
- Layers 2 & 3
- Gumboot Lake occasional recharge
- Pitt-Taylor diversion

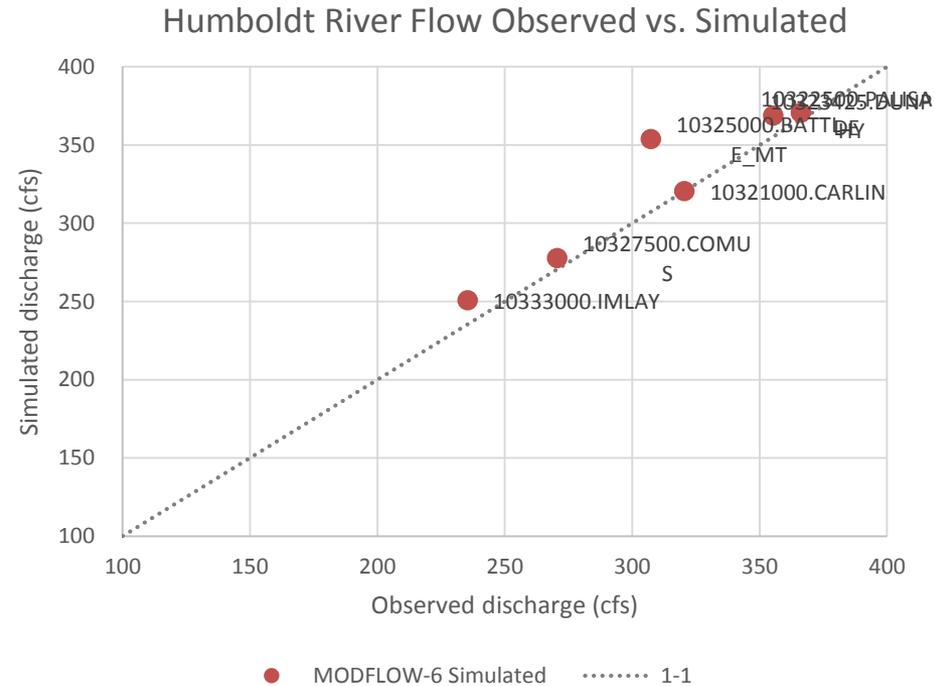
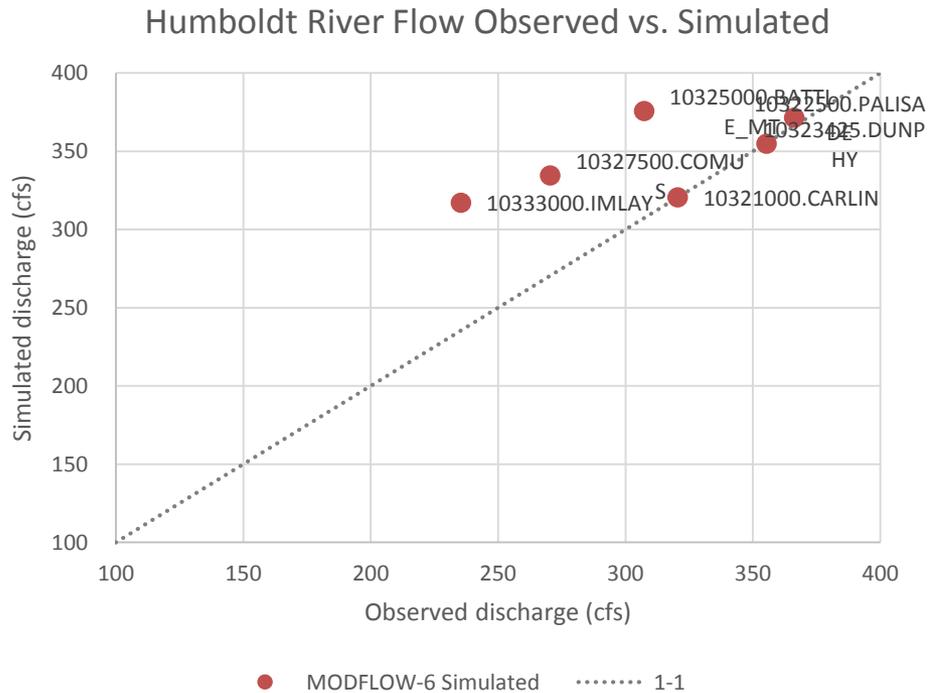


# Model Development and Calibration

## – Steady-State Flow Calibration

Prior calibration

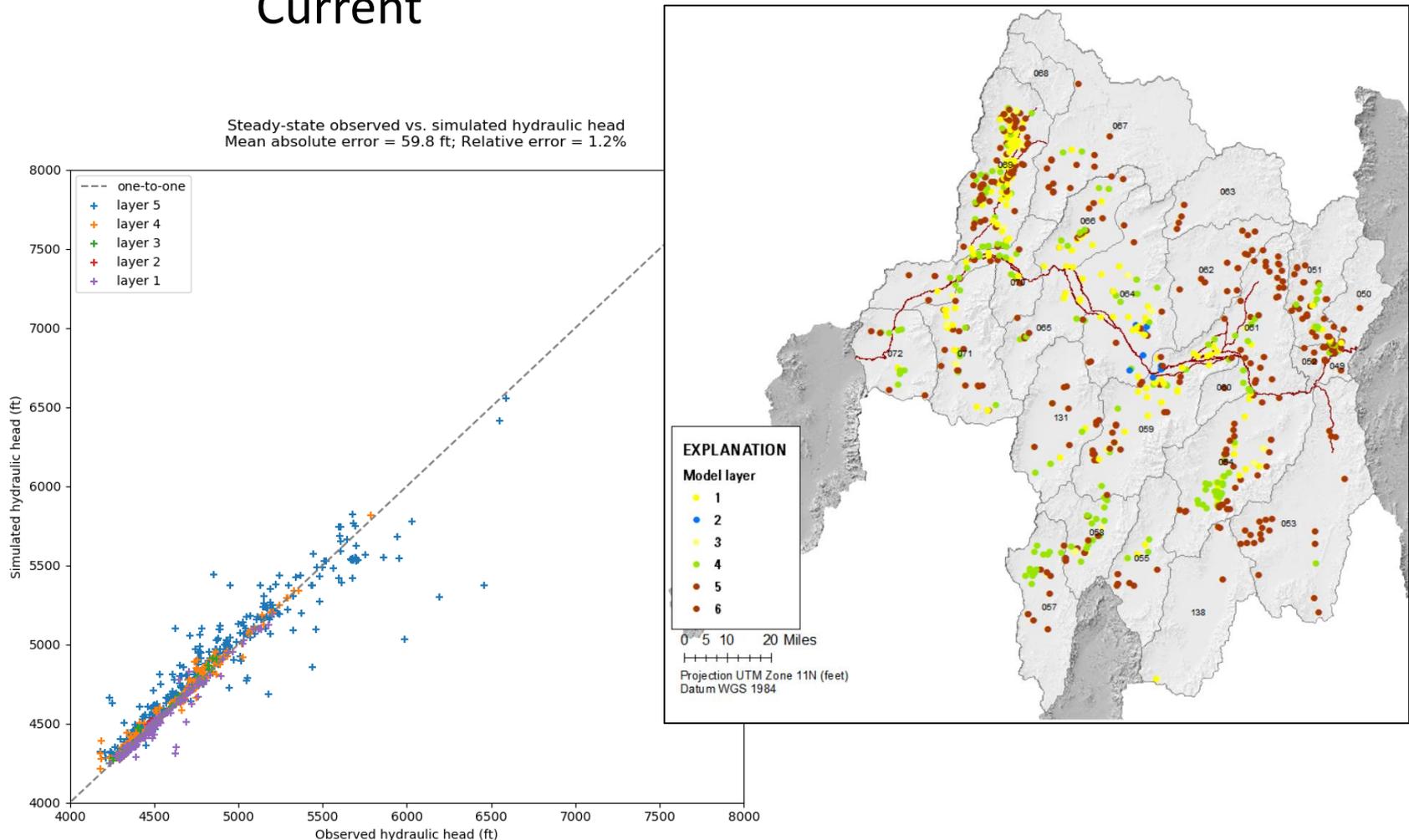
Current



# Steady State Water Level Calibration

One to one plots of observed vs. simulated hydraulic head for the entire model

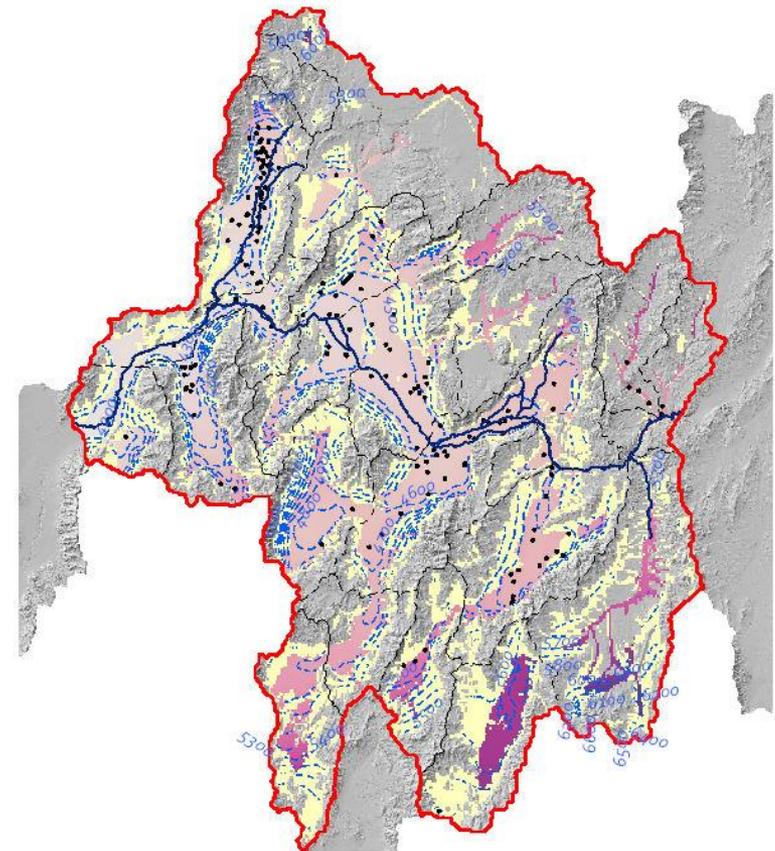
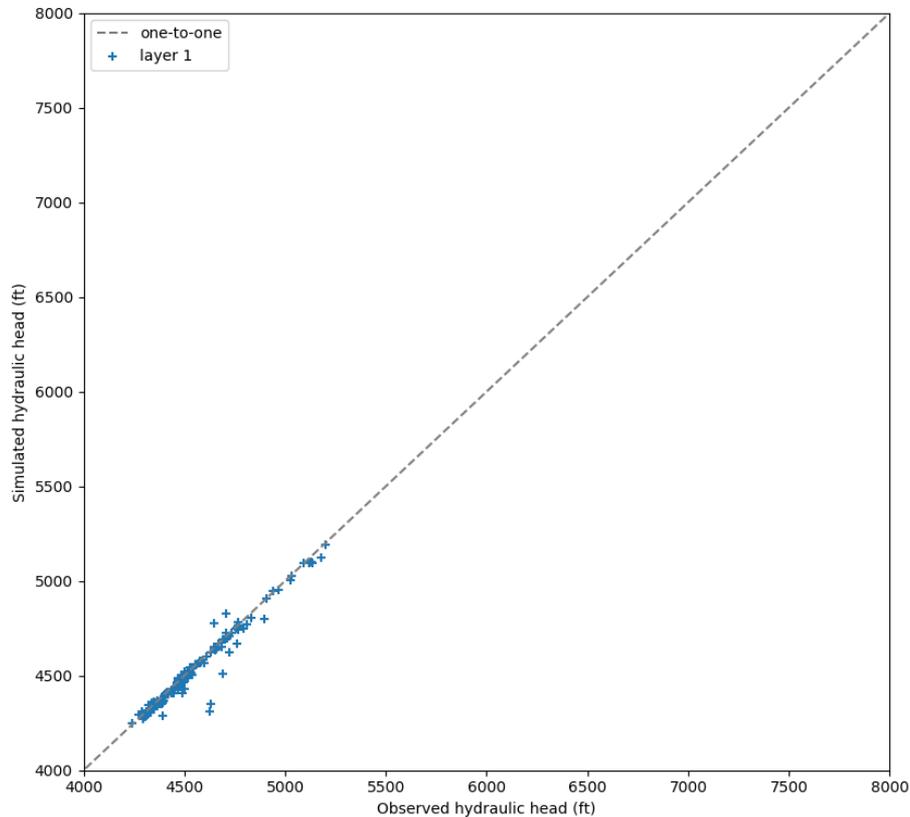
## Current



# Steady State Water Level Calibration

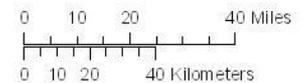
## Layer 1 - Younger unconsolidated deposits

Steady-state observed vs. simulated hydraulic head  
Mean absolute error = 37.4 ft; Relative error = 0.8%



### Explanation

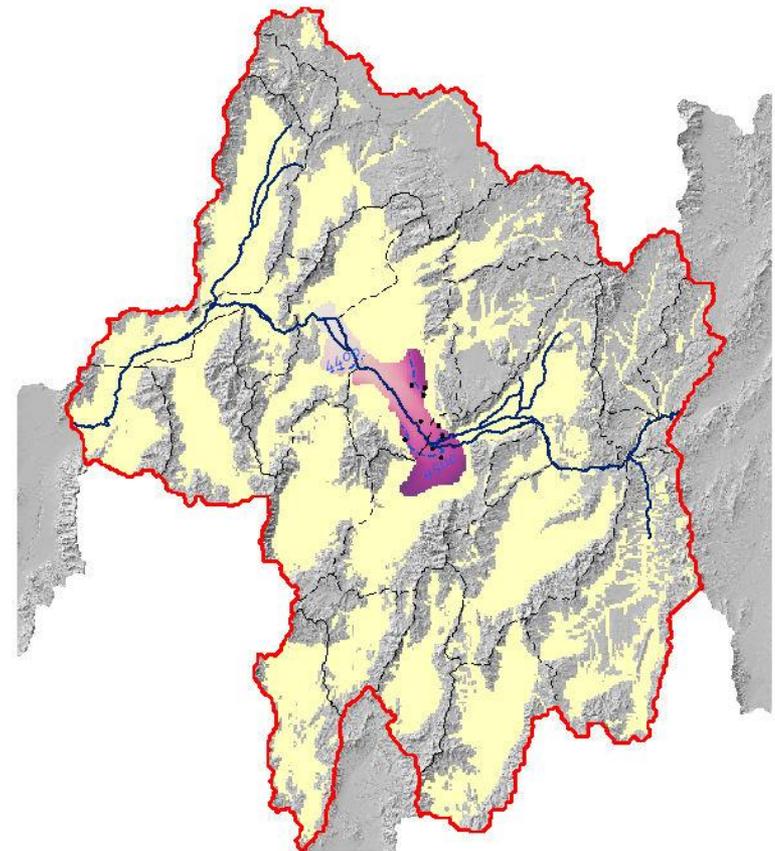
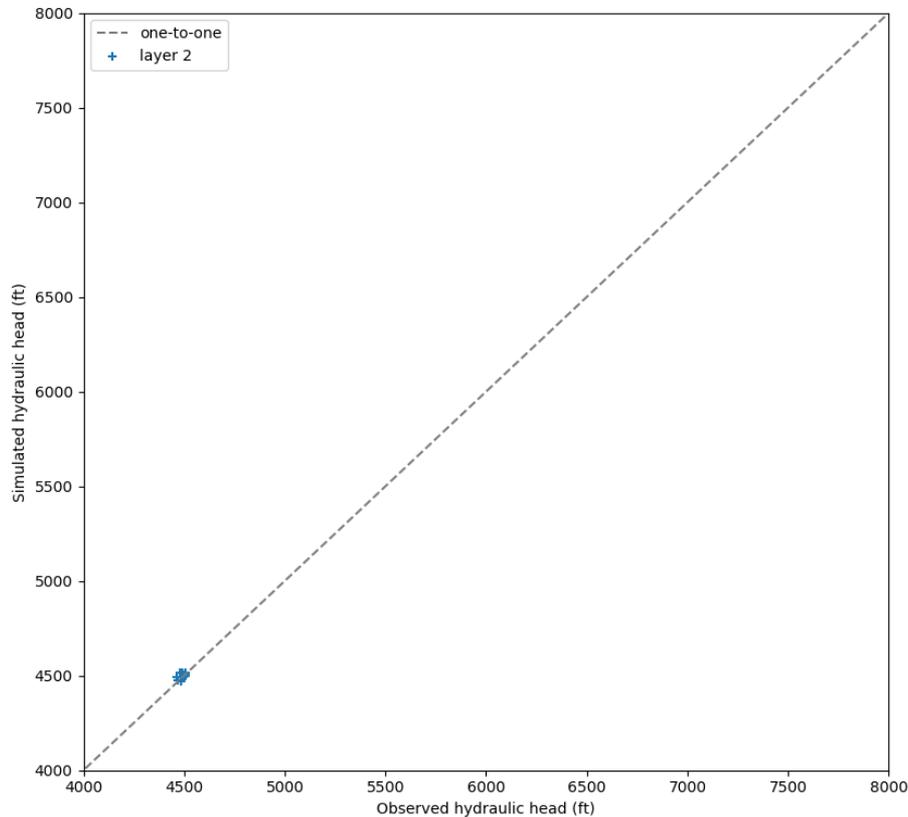
- Hydraulic head observations
- Model Outline
- Groundwater contours
- Dry cells



# Steady State Water Level Calibration

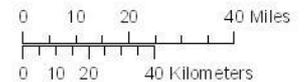
## Layer 2 - Clay layer

Steady-state observed vs. simulated hydraulic head  
Mean absolute error = 11.7 ft; Relative error = 26.1%



### Explanation

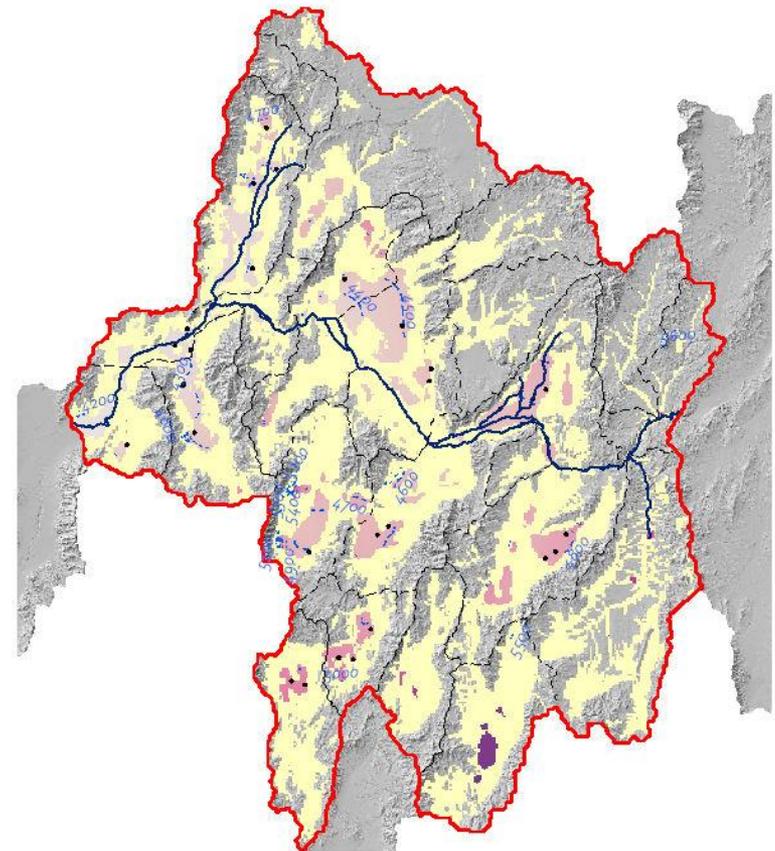
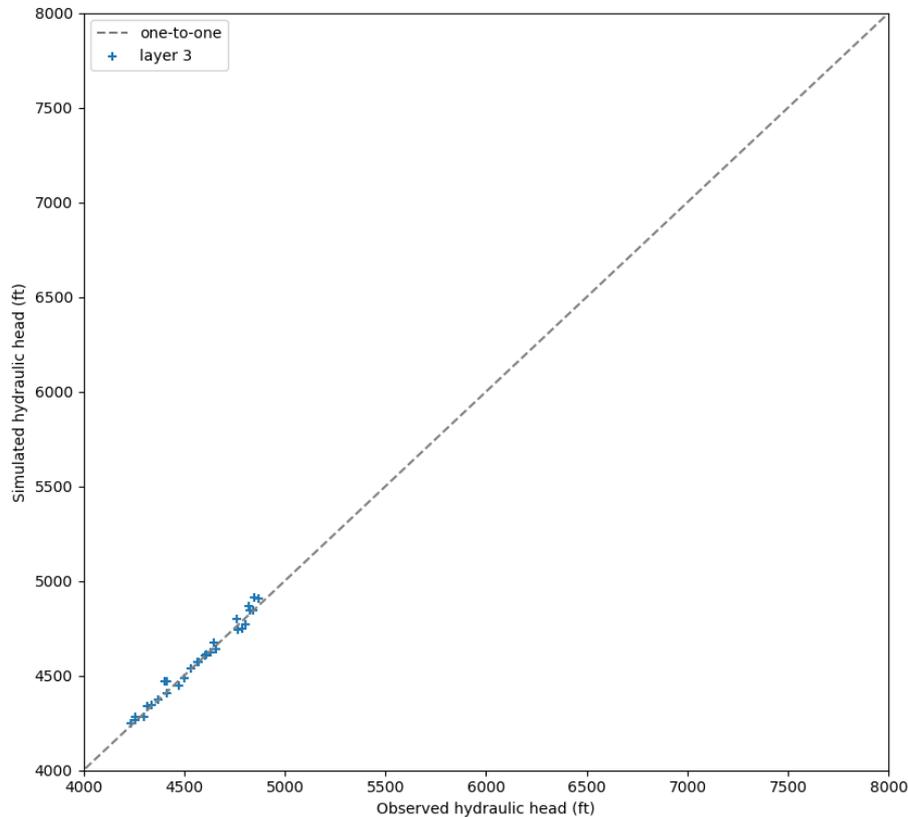
- Hydraulic head observations: Hydraulic head
- ▭ Model Outline
- - - Groundwater contours
- Pinched cells



# Steady State Water Level Calibration

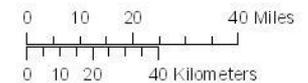
## Layer 3 - Lower unconsolidated deposits

Steady-state observed vs. simulated hydraulic head  
Mean absolute error = 21.7 ft; Relative error = 3.4%



### Explanation

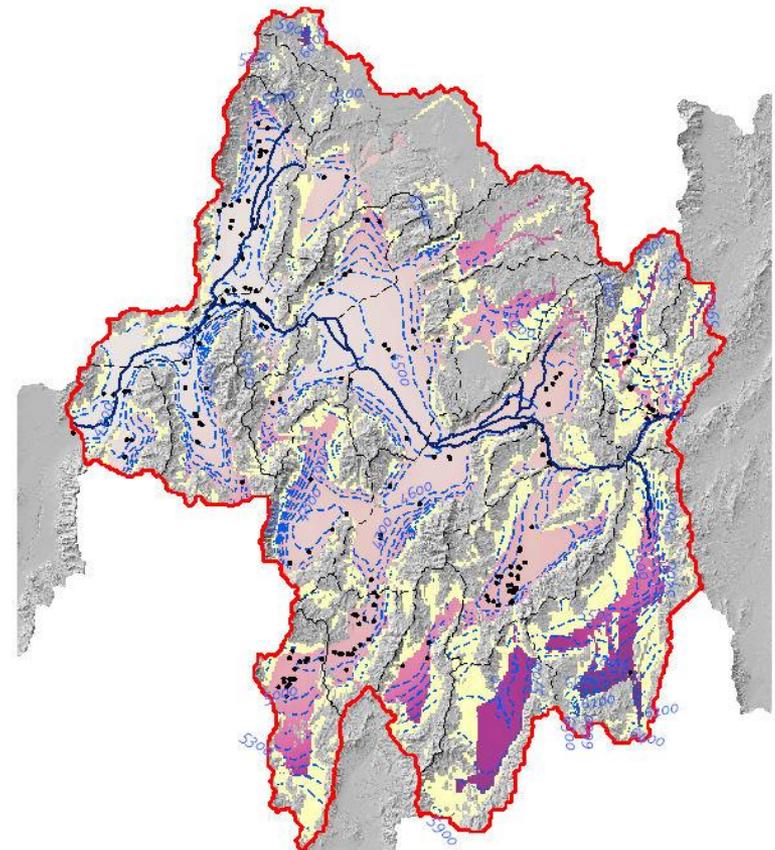
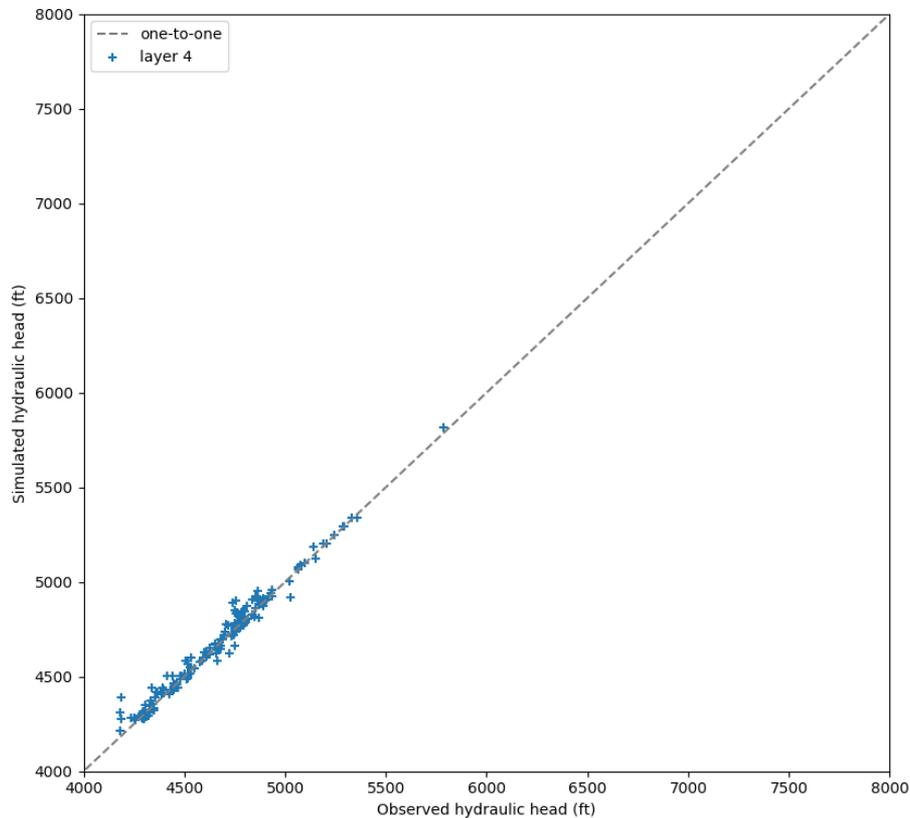
- Hydraulic head observations head
  - ▭ Model Outline
  - Groundwater contours
  - Dry or pinched cells
- 5,748  
4,142



# Steady State Water Level Calibration

## Layer 4 - Consolidated basin-fill deposits

Steady-state observed vs. simulated hydraulic head  
Mean absolute error = 27.0 ft; Relative error = 1.7%



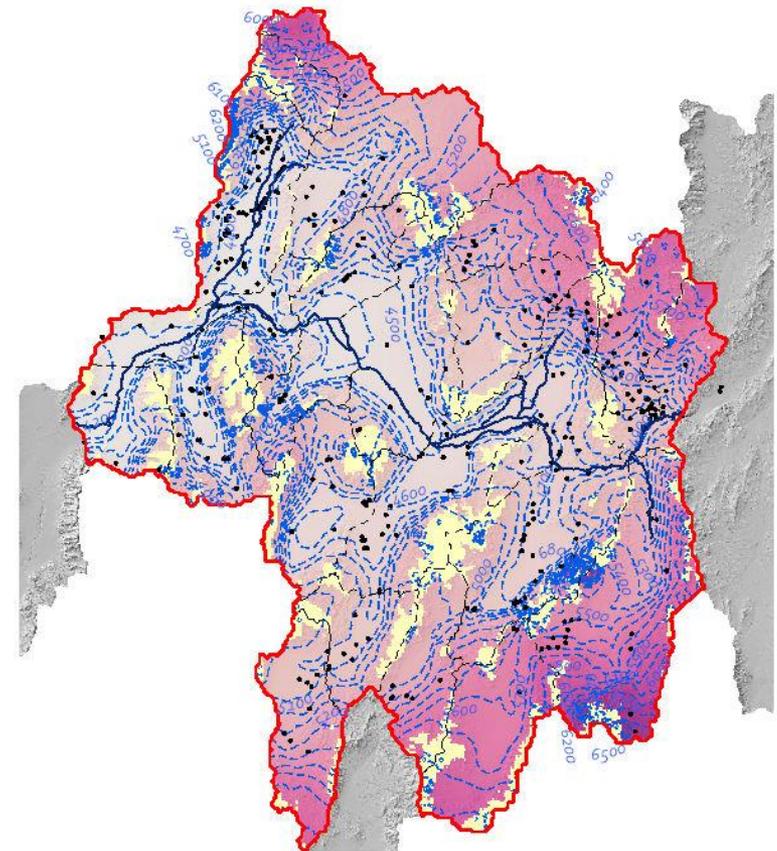
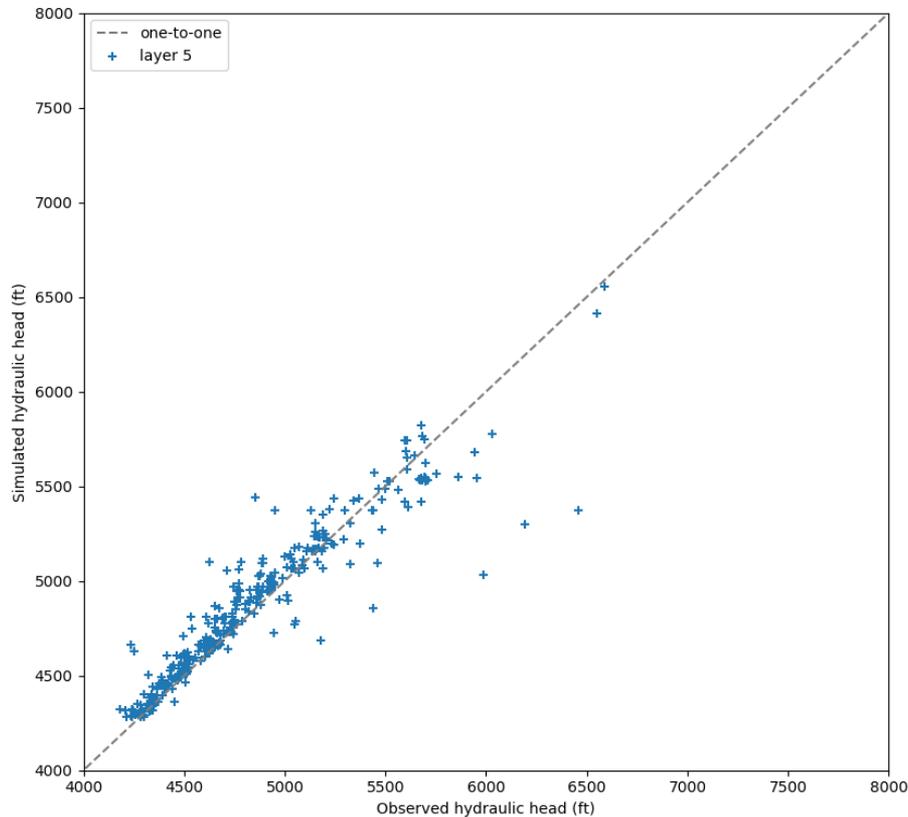
### Explanation

- Hydraulic head observations
- Model Outline
- Groundwater contours
- Dry cells

# Steady State Water Level Calibration

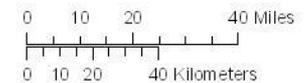
## Layer 5 - Upper clastic, volcanic, granitic, and carbonate deposits

Steady-state observed vs. simulated hydraulic head  
Mean absolute error = 92.0 ft; Relative error = 3.0%



### Explanation

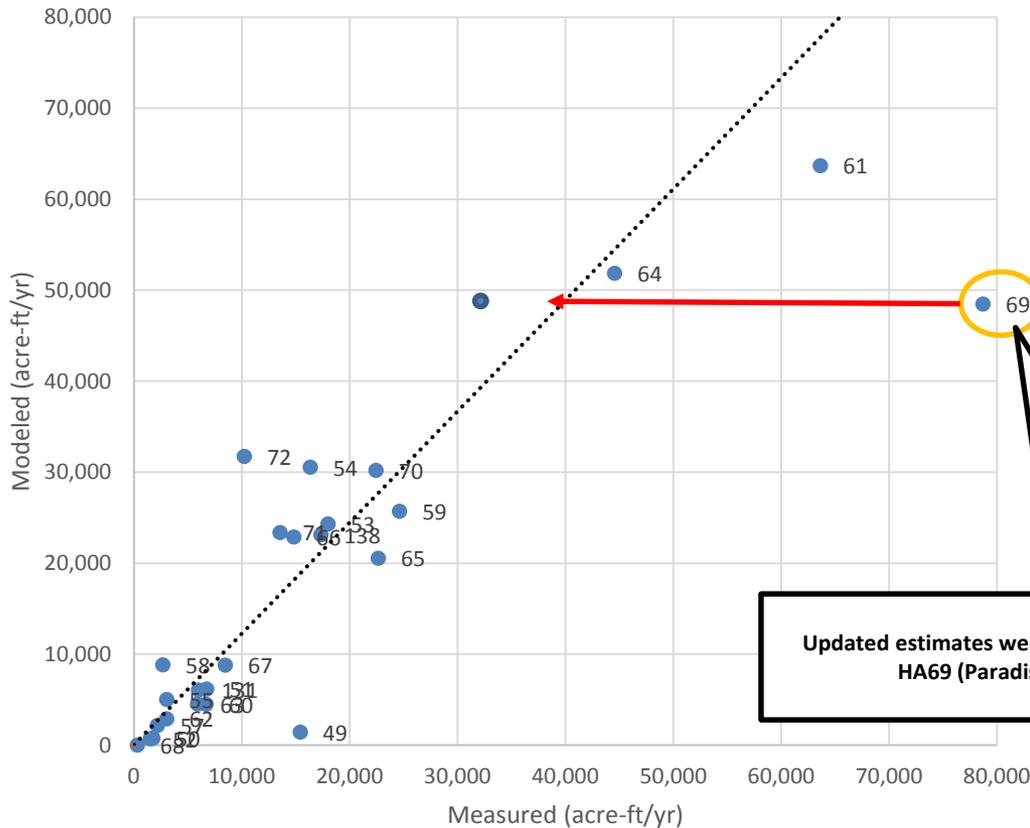
- Hydraulic head observations head
- Model Outline
- - - Groundwater contours
- Dry cells



# Evapotranspiration Calibration

## Simulated Groundwater Evapotranspiration by HA

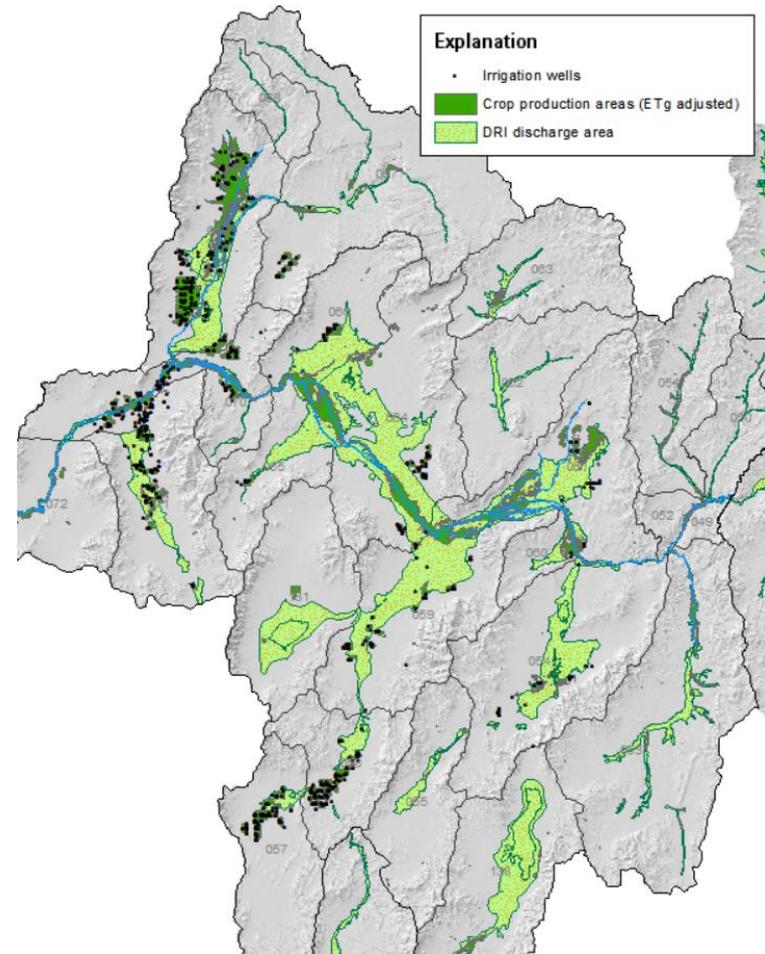
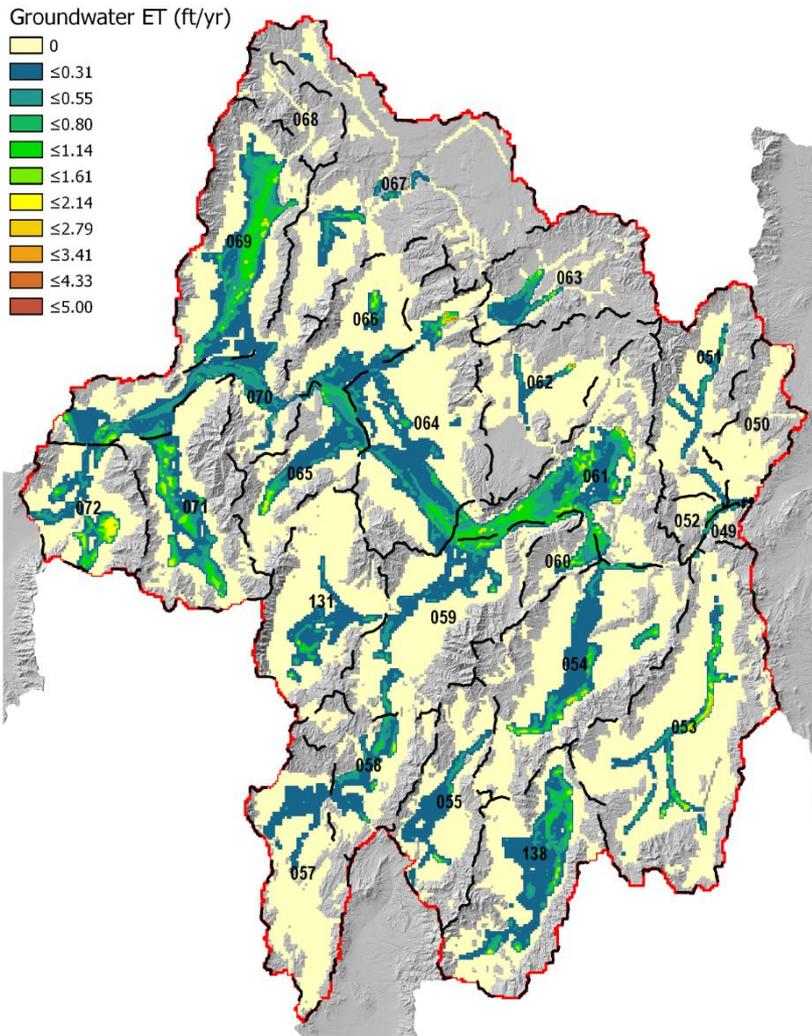
ETg (with HA number)



HA Number	HA Name
49	Elko Segment
50	Susie Creek Area
51	Maggie Creek Area
52	Marys Creek Area
53	Pine Valley
54	Crescent Valley
55	Carico Lake Valley
57	Antelope Valley
58	Middle Reese River Valley
59	Lower Reese River Valley
60	Whirlwind Valley
61	Boulder Flat
62	Rock Creek Valley
63	Willow Creek Valley
64	Clovers Area
65	Pumpnickel Valley
66	Kelley Creek Area
67	Little Humboldt Valley
68	Hardscrabble Area
69	Paradise Valley
70	Winnemucca Segment
71	Grass Valley
72	Imlay Area
131	Buffalo Valley
138	Grass Valley

Updated estimates were not available for HA69 (Paradise Valley)

# Evapotranspiration Distribution

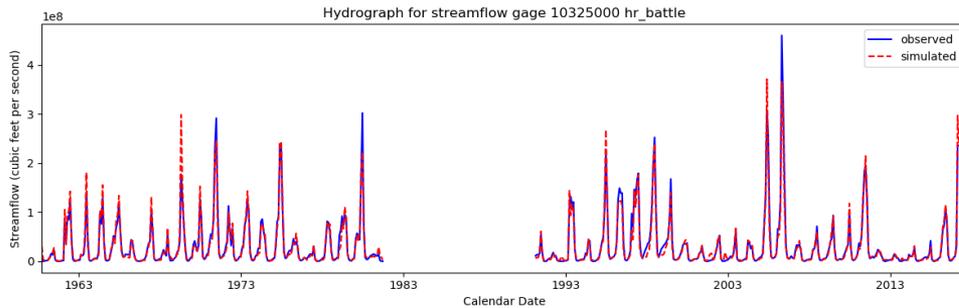


# Model Development and Calibration

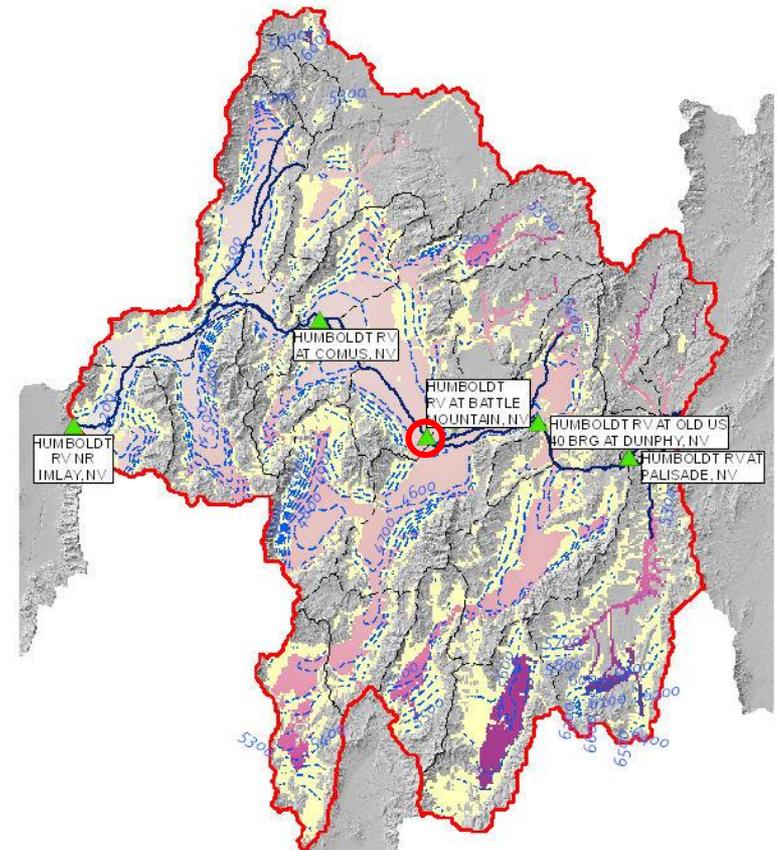
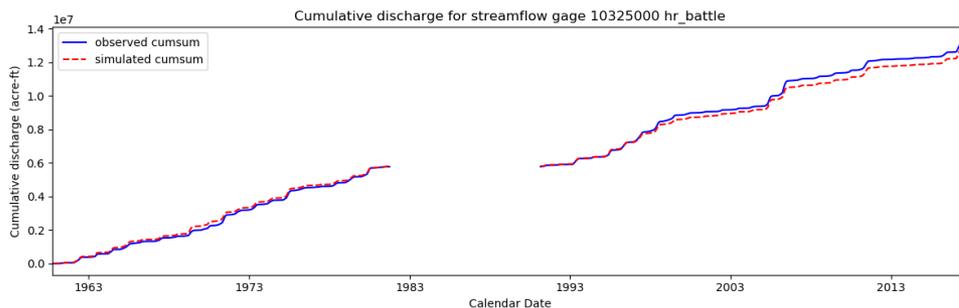
## – Transient Flow Calibration

### Humboldt River at Battle Mt.

Simulated vs. observed streamflow  
(cubic feet per second)

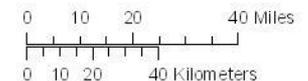


Simulated vs. observed cumulative discharge  
(acre feet)



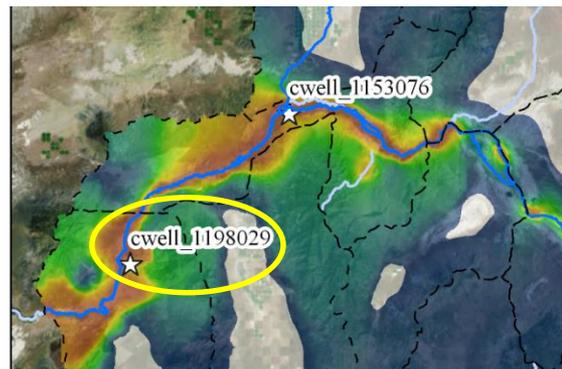
#### Explanation

- ▲ Humboldt River Realtime Gages
  - ▭ Model Outline
  - - - Groundwater contours
  - Dry cells
- head  
6,021  
4,141



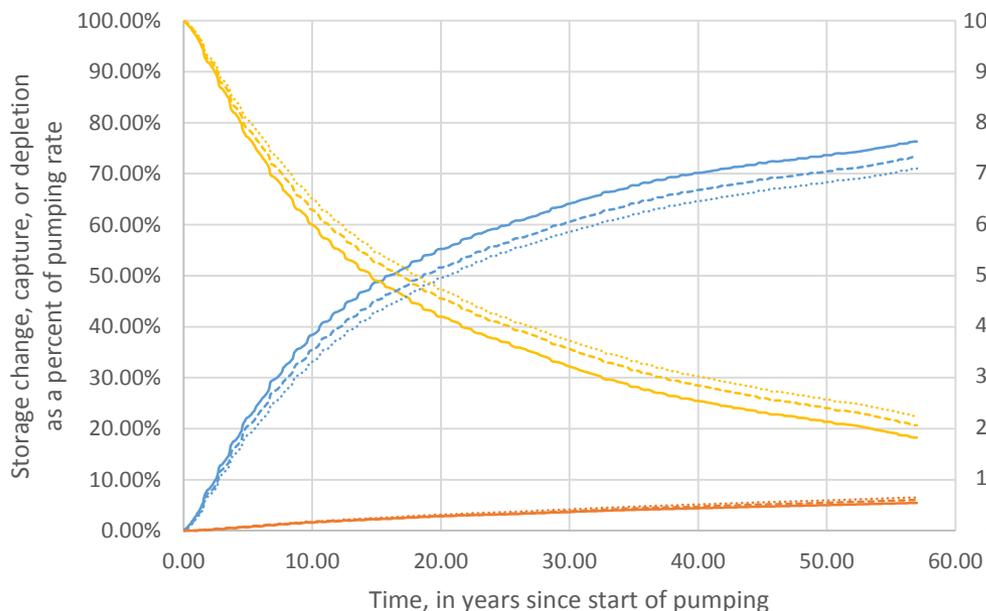
## Transient streamflow capture (hypothetical well #1198029)

- 5,800 ft from Humboldt River
- Near Imlay gage



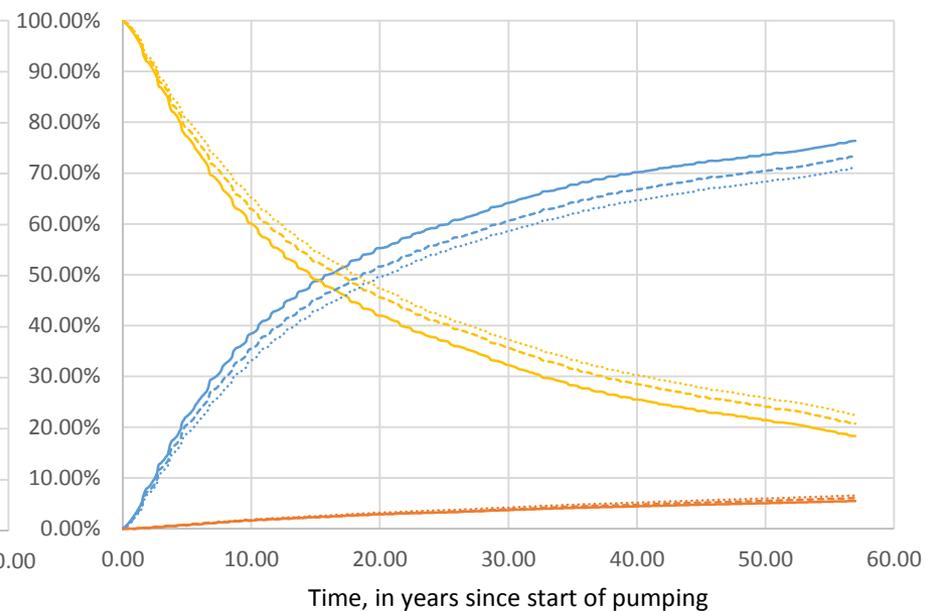
Layer 1

Humboldt River Basin Cumulative Capture



Layer 4

Humboldt River Basin Cumulative Capture



- Streams at 112.5 gpm
- Streams at 450 gpm
- Streams at 900 gpm
- EVT at 112.5 gpm
- EVT at 450 gpm
- EVT at 900 gpm
- Storage at 112.5 gpm
- Storage at 450 gpm
- Storage at 900 gpm

# Humboldt Capture Query Tool

- In development
- Extracts capture output from model results based on location, years of pumping, and well depth.
- Example [capture report](#)

### Enter Parameters

Latitude (NAD83 DD)

40.80557

Longitude (NAD83 DD)

-118.08499

Depth Below Surface (1-10,000 feet)

65

Years of Pumping (1-100 years)

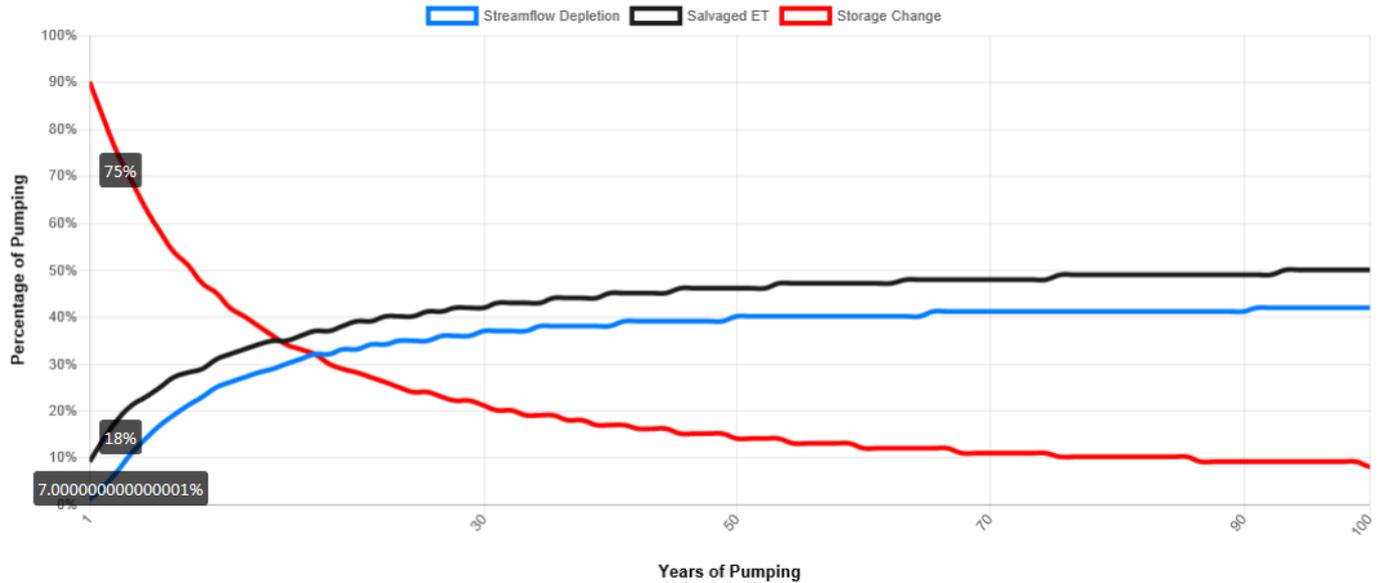
22

Plot

### Results

Export

After 22 years of pumping at Latitude 40.80557, Longitude -118.08499 and a a depth of 65 ft below landsurface, groundwater is derived from the following sources: 34.4% streamflow depletion, 39.6% salvage ET, and 26.1% storage change.



### Output

Years of Pumping	Streamflow Depletion	Salvaged ET	Storage Change
1	1.0%	9.2%	89.8%
5	14.0%	22.9%	63.1%
10	24.7%	30.6%	44.6%
22	34.4%	39.6%	26.1%
25	35.5%	40.9%	23.6%
50	39.8%	46.6%	13.7%
100	42.0%	50.2%	7.8%

# Model Development and Calibration

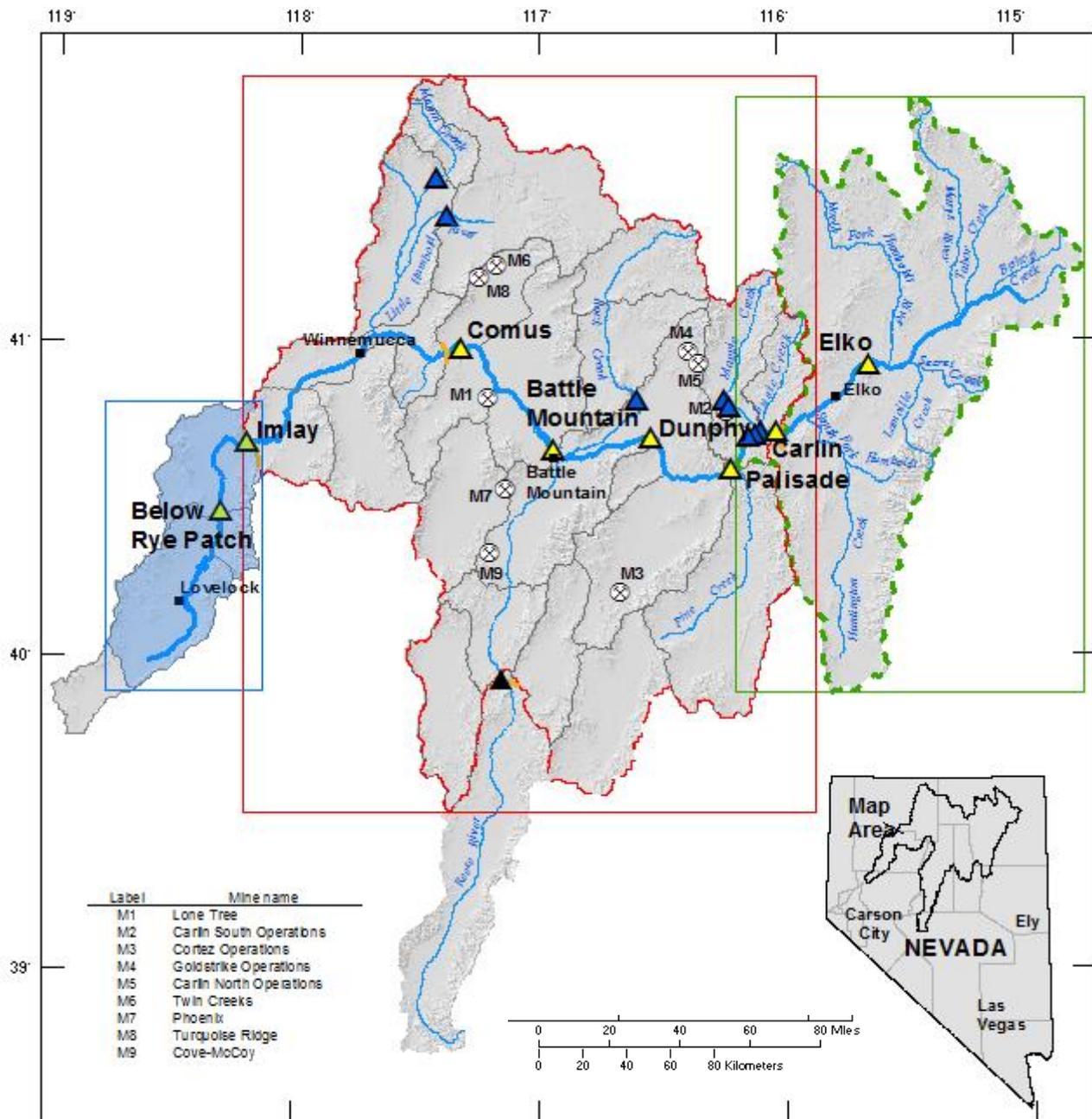
## – Plans for 2019

- Continue calibrating Steady State and Transient models.
- Refine calibrations by Hydrographic Area.
- Achieve satisfactory calibration by Spring 2019.
- Produce preliminary capture analysis for developing conjunctive use regulation by Spring 2019.
- Complete capture analysis by end of 2019 or early in 2020

# Groundwater Models

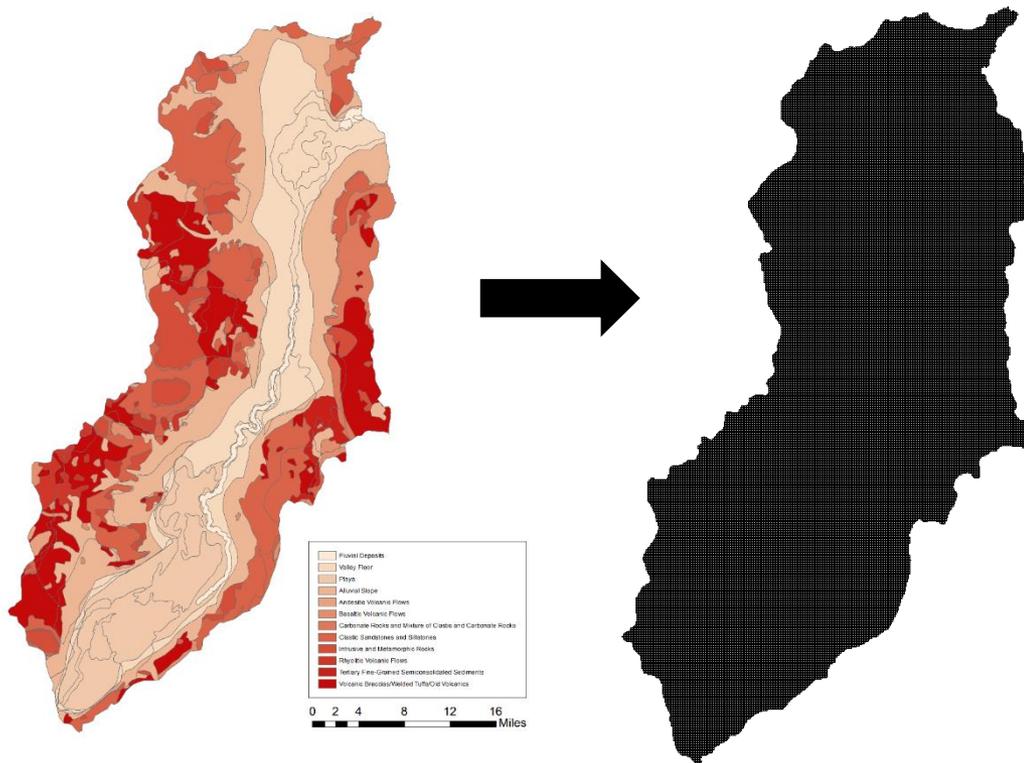
Lower Basin Model

Susan Rybarski - DRI



- Upper basin model – DRI
- Middle basin model – USGS
- Lower basin Model – USGS/DRI

# Model Domain



Modified from Maurer and others (2004)

- 500 ft grid cell resolution
- Includes mountain block/bedrock
- 3 layers, generally representing clay (layer 1), alluvium/valley fill (layer 2), bedrock (layer 3)
- Thickness of clay layer set to 50 feet
- Depth to basement defined by Justin Meyers (USGS), and used to define elevation of top of layer 3, with a minimum depth of 20 feet bls.

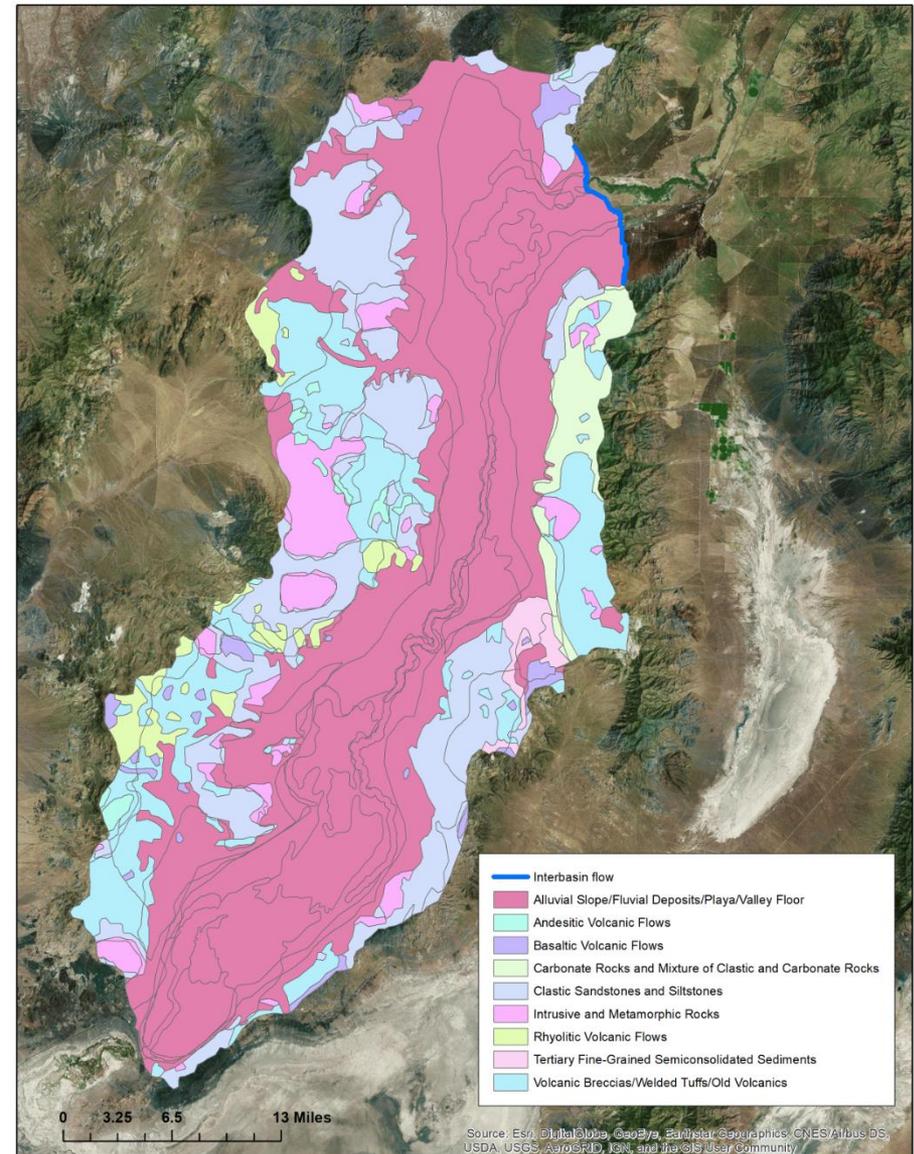
# Lakes and River

- Humboldt River simulated using River package (RIV), in two segments to prevent overlap with Rye Patch Reservoir.
- Rye Patch Reservoir simulated as a constant head boundary (CHD), using mean stage for SS model.
- Pitt-Taylor Reservoirs, Toulon Lake, and Humboldt Lake not simulated as they are frequently dry and heads are unknown.
- Mean annual stages applied to transient model.
- River conductance calibrated to estimated steady-state river loss of 7,300 AFA
- 6,000-14,000 AF mean annual reservoir loss to bank storage; loss to aquifer unknown (Eakin, 1962; Fereday and Nash, 2017). Simulated loss of 900 AFA determined by model given calibration to ET in Imlay area and local heads.



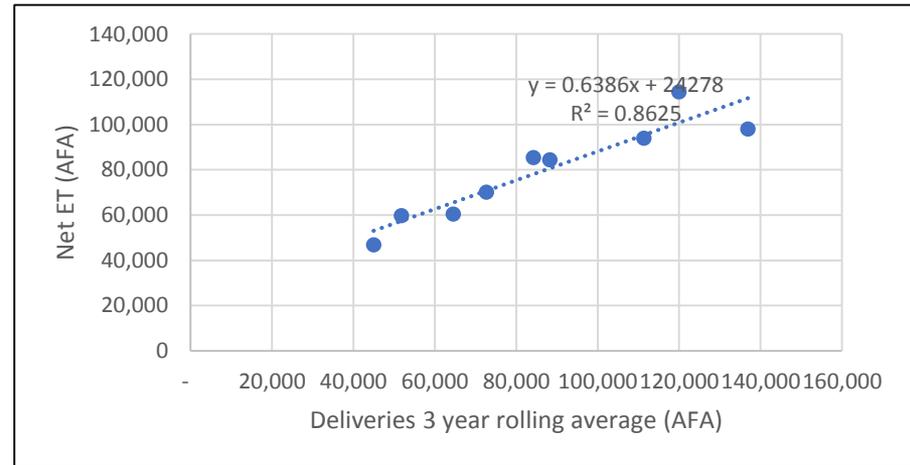
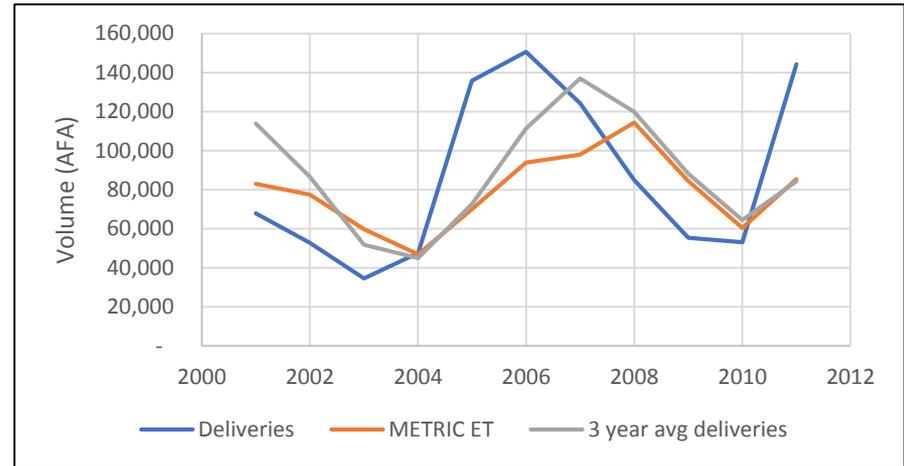
# Interbasin Flow

- Specified flux boundary applied along shared boundary with Middle Humboldt model
- Limited to extent of alluvial slope/fluvial deposits/playa/valley floor
- SS flux of 771 AFA based on current outflow from Middle Humboldt model



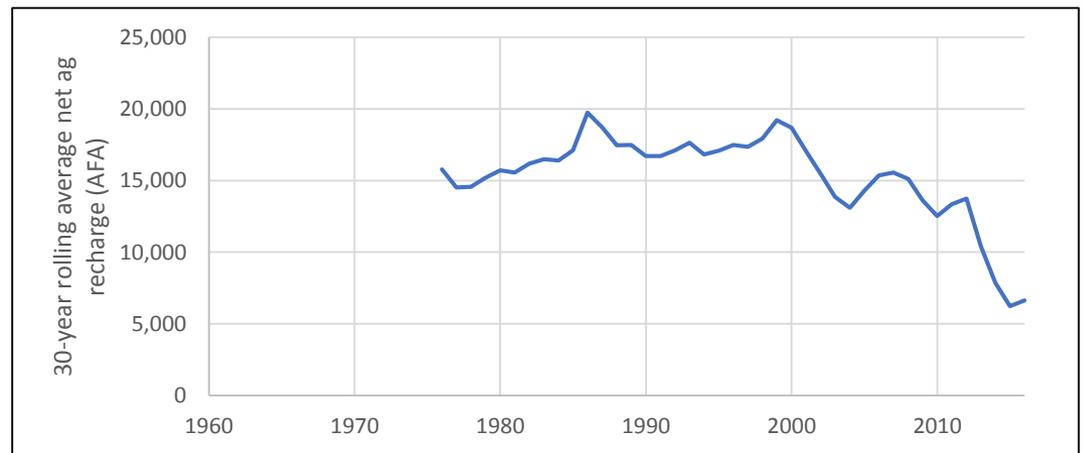
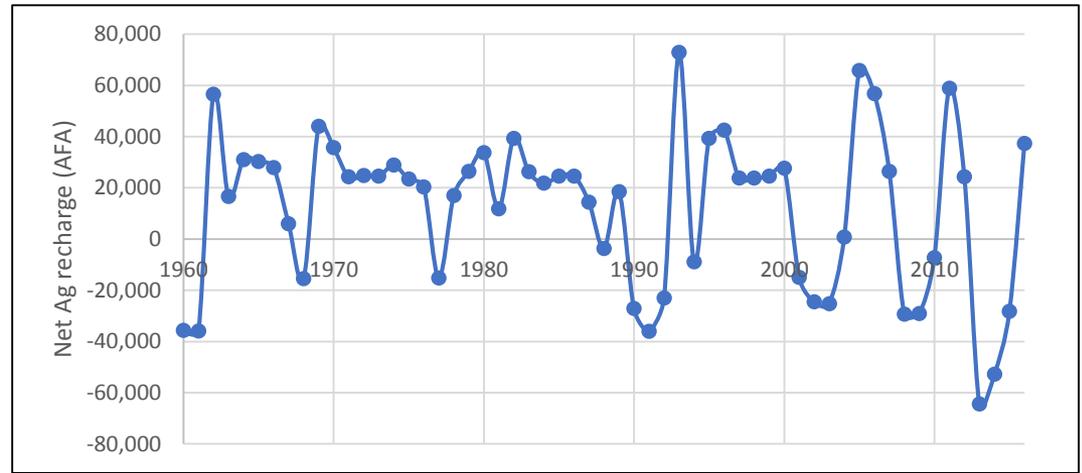
# Estimate Ag ET

- Use METRIC ET for 2001-2011
- ET correlates poorly to delivery rates; correlates well to 3-year rolling average
- Relate METRIC ET to 3-year rolling average of delivery rates for all other years



# Ag Recharge

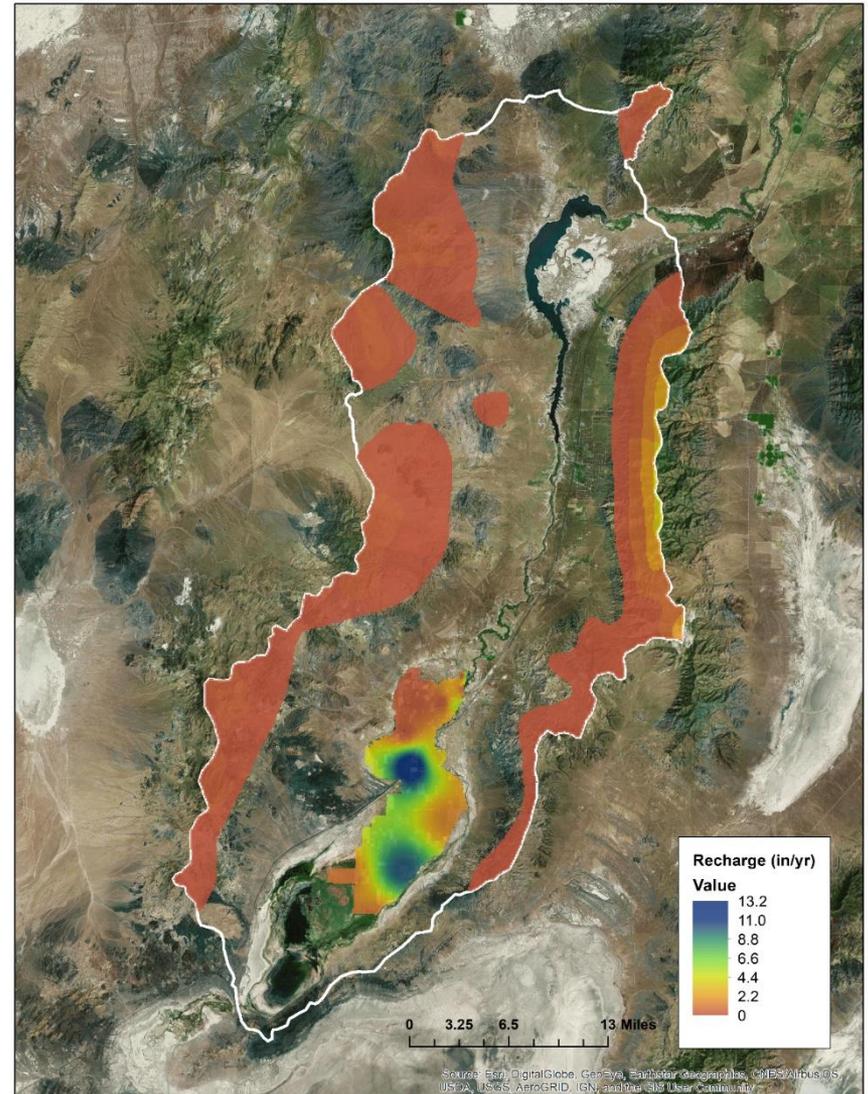
- Streamflow applied to fields less Net ET = Ag Recharge
- Mean ag recharge value for 1960-1990 applied to steady state model (16,700 AFA)
- ET applied as negative recharge for years where ET is greater than net recharge



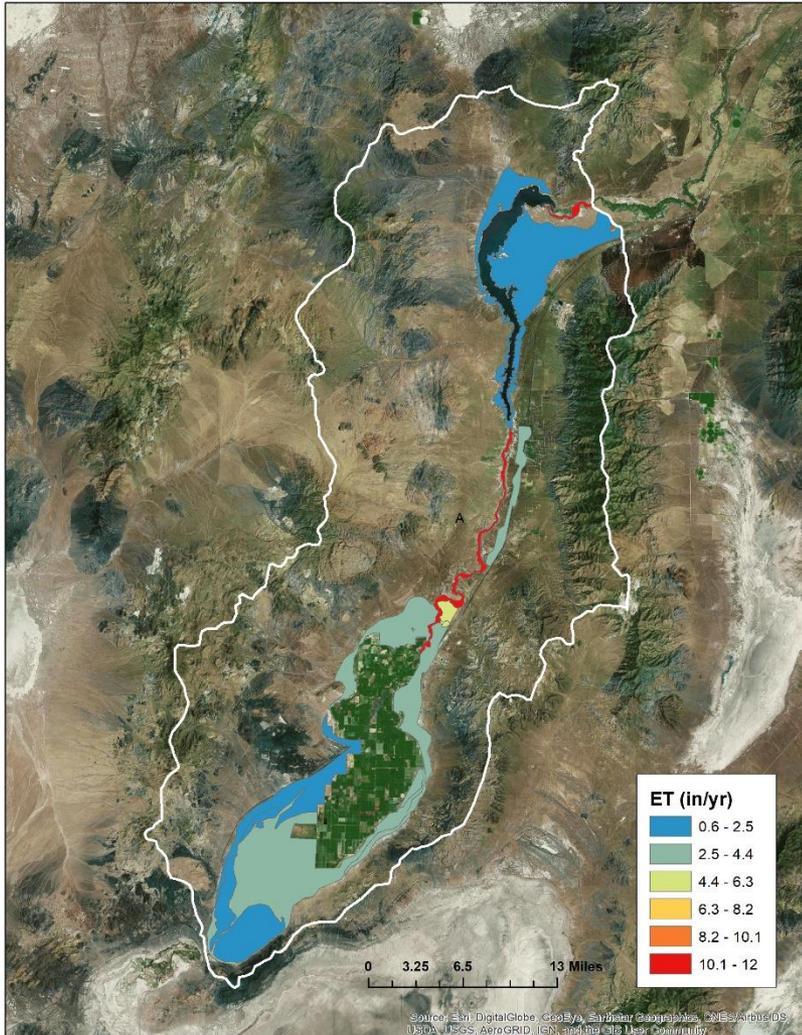
# Steady State Recharge

Reference	Mountain Block Recharge (afy)				Methodology
	Lovelock	Oreana	Imlay	Model Domain	
Everett and Rush, 1965	1,200	2,000	--	--	Maxey-Eakin, 1949
Eakin, 1962	--	--	4,000	--	Maxey-Eakin, 1949

- Mountain block recharge estimates from Recon Reports distributed proportionally over Hardman map intervals
- Ag recharge rate applied as average of 1960-1990 regression
- Mountain block recharge = 5,700 AFA
- SS Ag recharge = 16,700 AFA, applied proportionally to layer 1 hydraulic conductivity



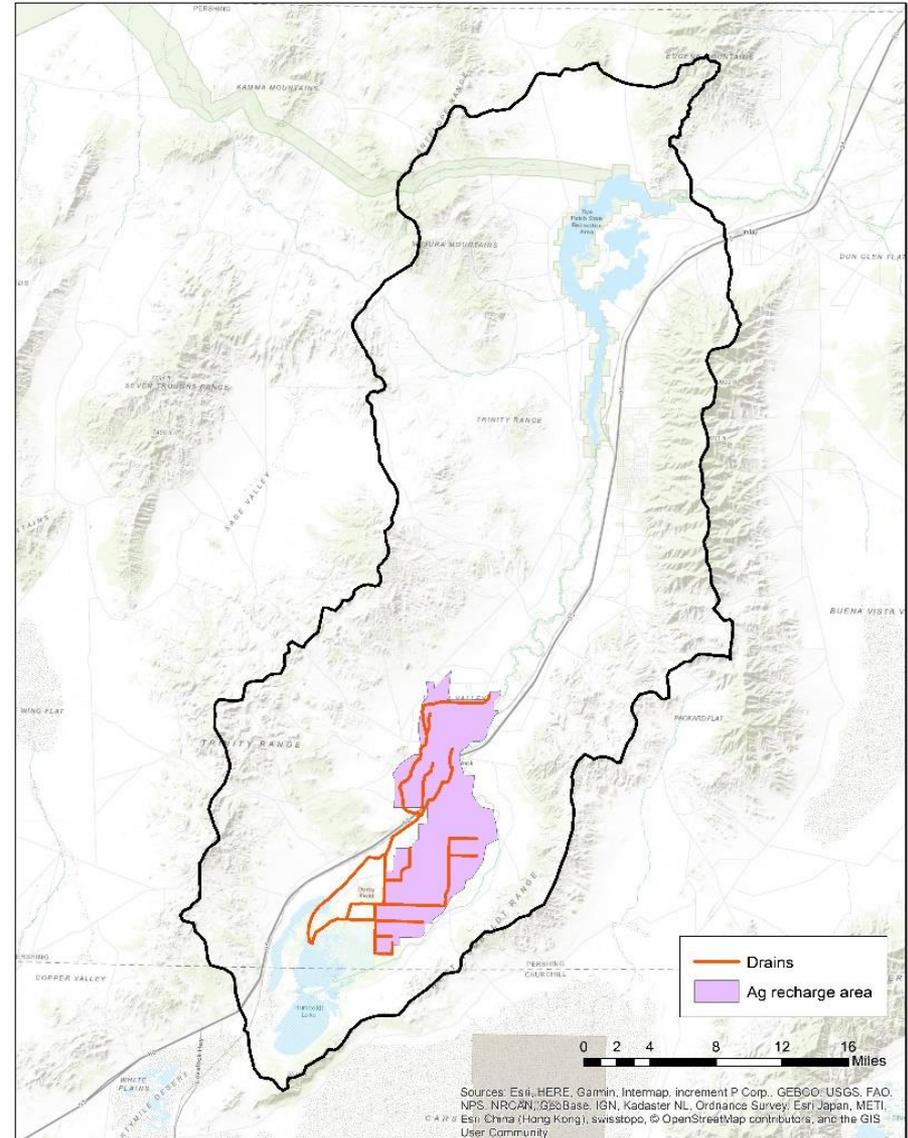
# Evapotranspiration



- ET zones applied over DRI polygons, total phreatophyte and bare soil ET estimated at 22,400 AFA
- Ag ET incorporated in net ag recharge estimate, not explicitly simulated

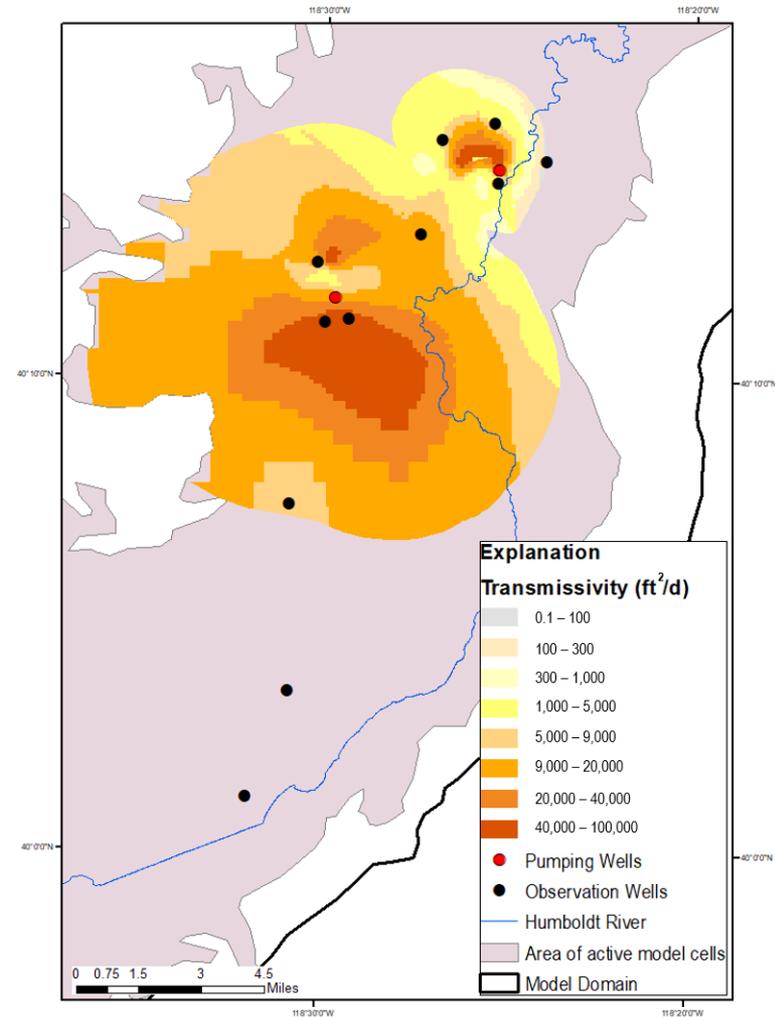
# Drains

- Represents ag runoff/recharge lost to sink; simulated using Drain (DRN) package
- Drain bottoms set to 9 ft bls
- Drain outflow estimated to be 9,500 AFA



# USGS Aquifer Test Results

	Lahontan Clays and Silts	Fluvial Deposits	Coarser Alluvium
Minimum Transmissivity (ft <sup>2</sup> /d)	0.0001	2.6	0.05
Maximum Transmissivity (ft <sup>2</sup> /d)	50	53.8	95,000
Average Transmissivity (ft <sup>2</sup> /d)	1	14.1	11,000

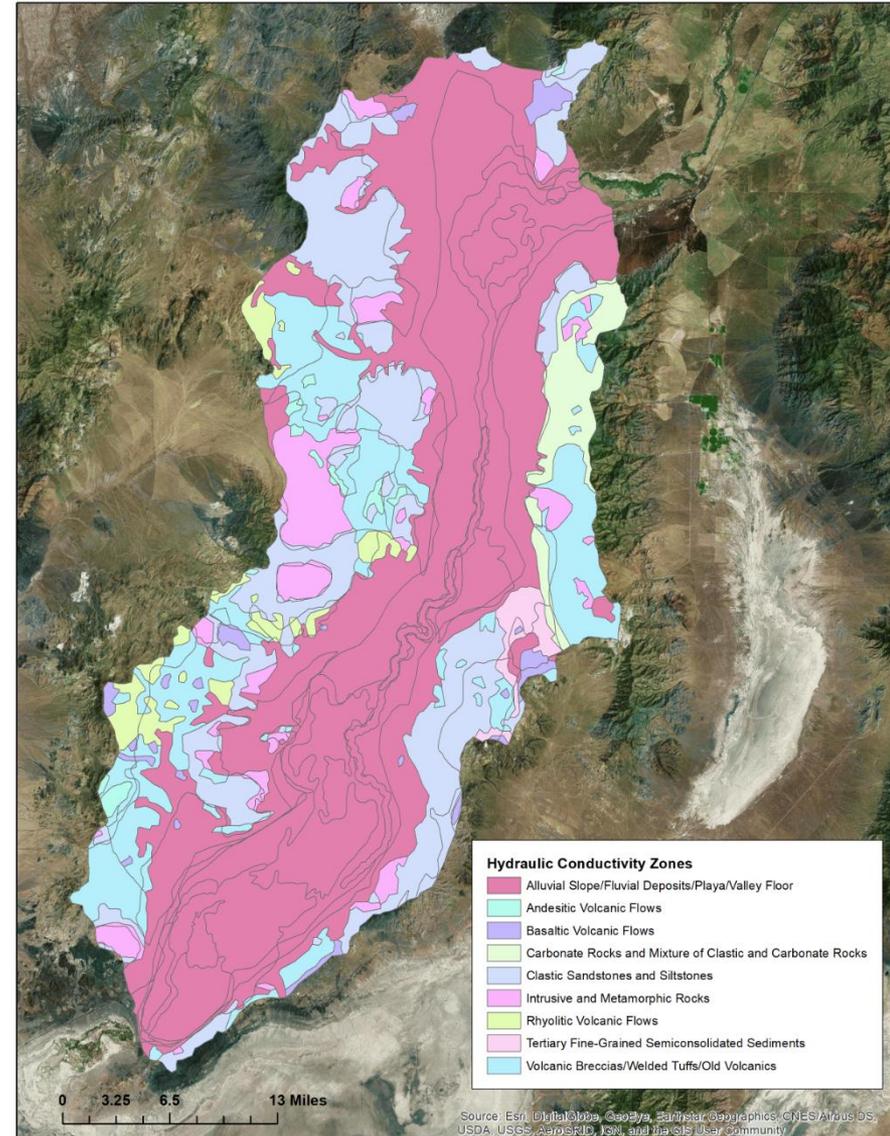


# Hydrogeology

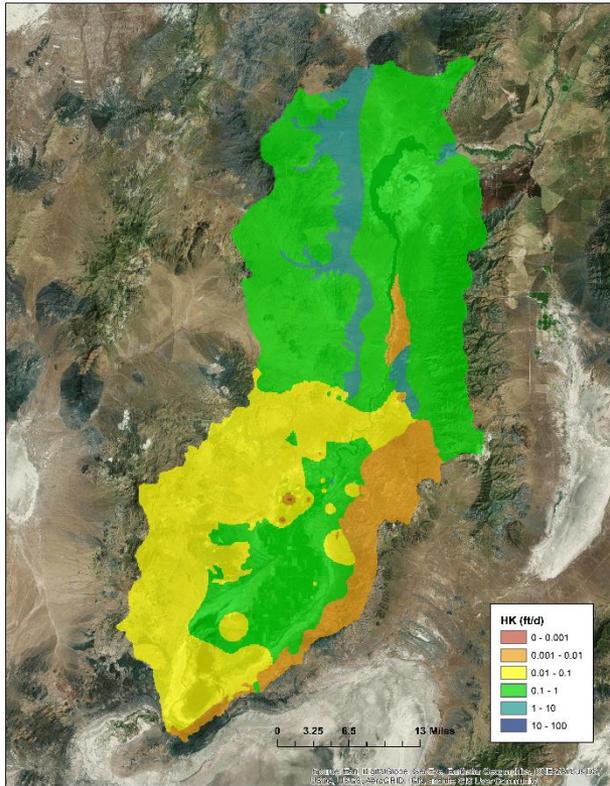
K Zone	K (ft/d)	Min (ft/d)	Max (ft/d)
Clastic Sandstones and Siltstones	0.01	2.00E-09	18
Alluvial Slope/Fluvial Deposits/Playa/Valley Floor	1 (L1), 10 (L2), 0.01 (L3)	0.0001	150
Basaltic Volcanic Flows	1	0.0002	1300
Andesitic Volcanic Flows	0.1	0.0002	60
Intrusive Metamorphic Rocks	0.001	7.00E-08	30
Rhyolitic Volcanic Flows	0.01	0.00002	260
Carbonate Rocks and Mixture of Clastic and Carbonate Rocks	5	0.00003	3300
Volcanic Breccias/Welded Tuffs/Old Volcanics	0.1	3.00E-07	600
Tertiary Fine-Grained Semiconsolidated Sediments	0.1	0.0002	20

Alluvial slope/fluvial deposits/playa/valley floor located in central basin simulated using pilot points

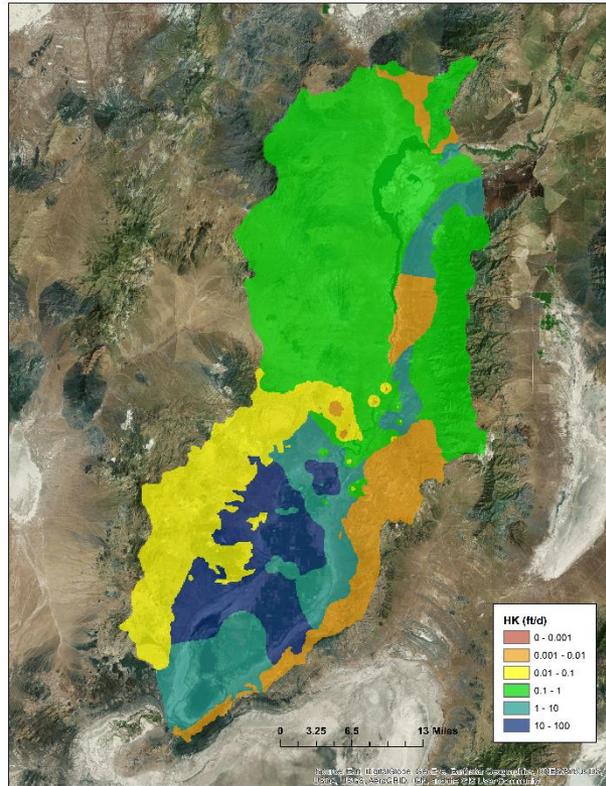
From Maurer and others, 2004



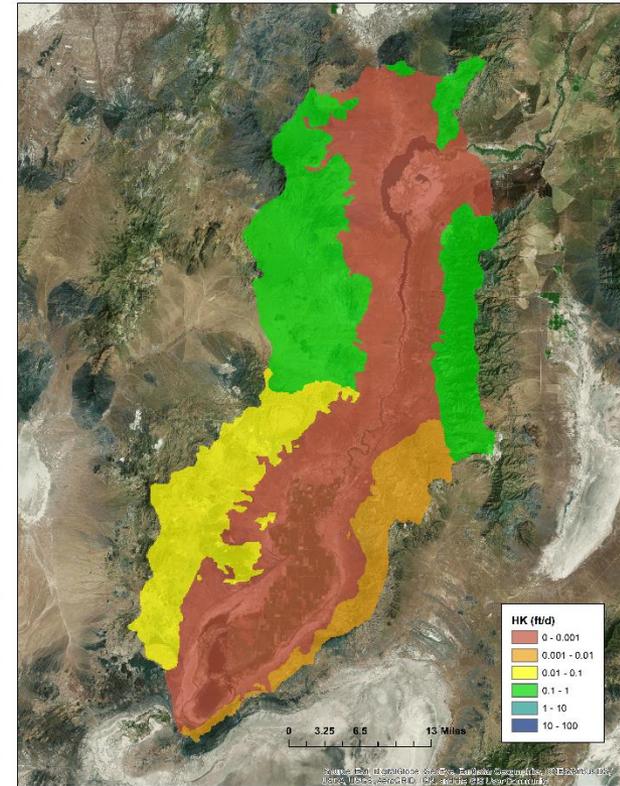
# Hydraulic Conductivity



Layer 1

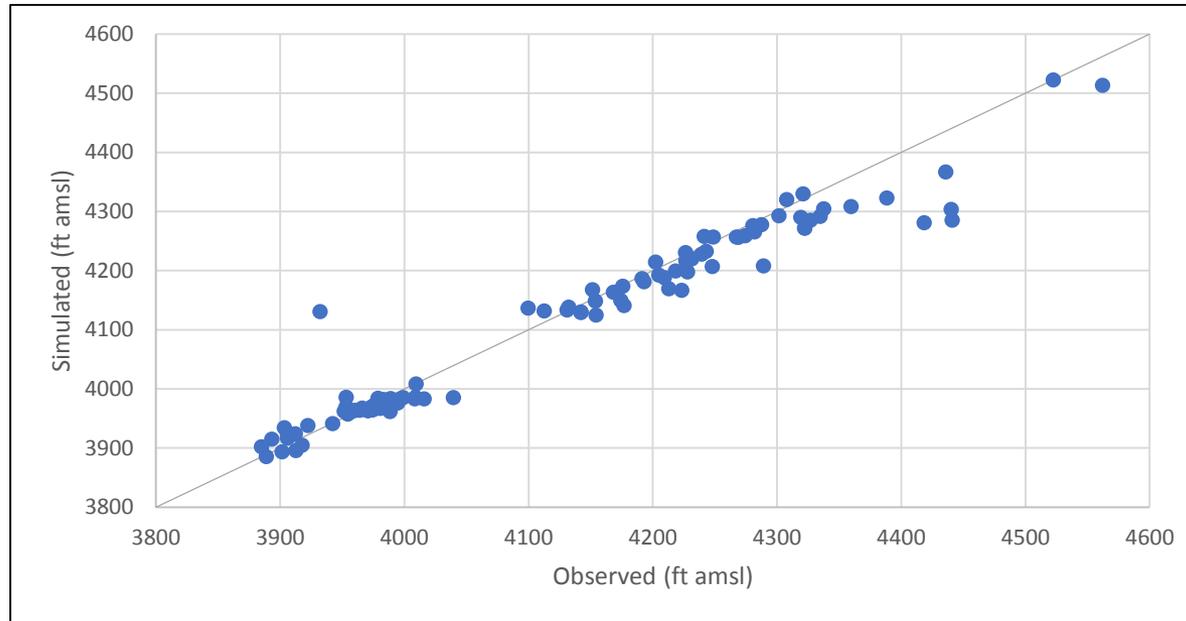


Layer 2



Layer 3

# SS Model Calibration



Mean Residual (Head) (ft)	9.55
Mean Absolute Residual (Head) (ft)	23.52
Root Mean Squared Residual (Head) (ft)	40.33
Relative Error	3.5%

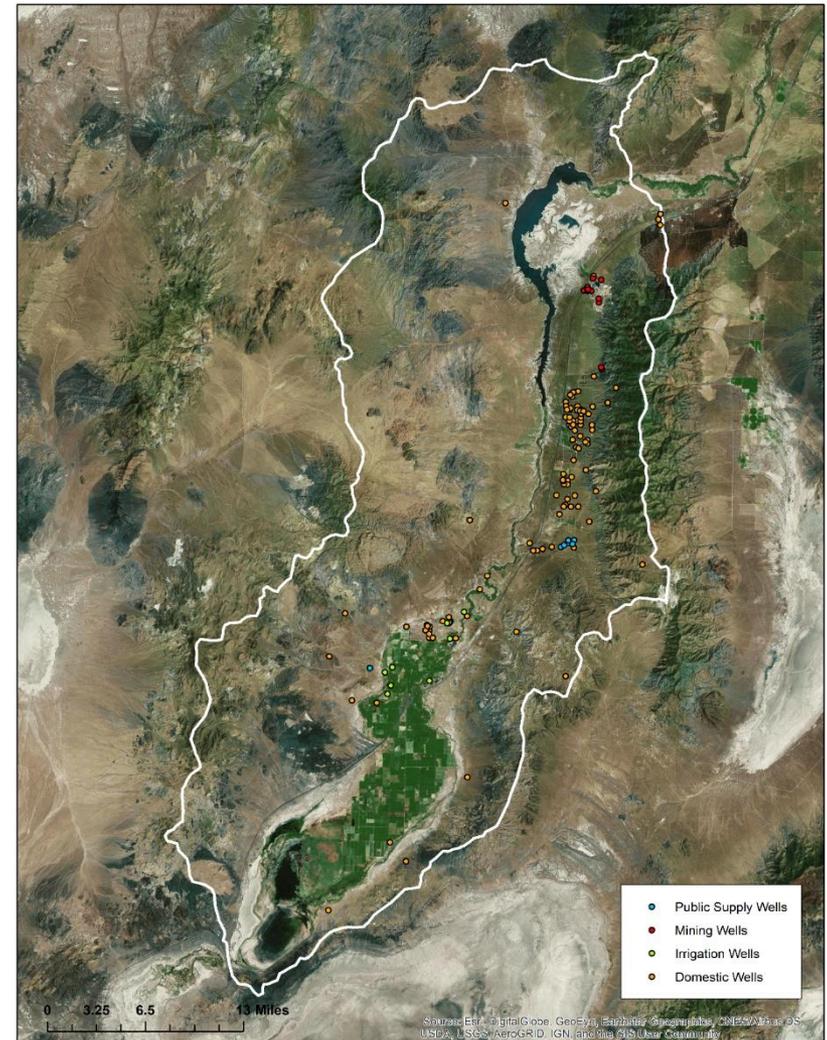
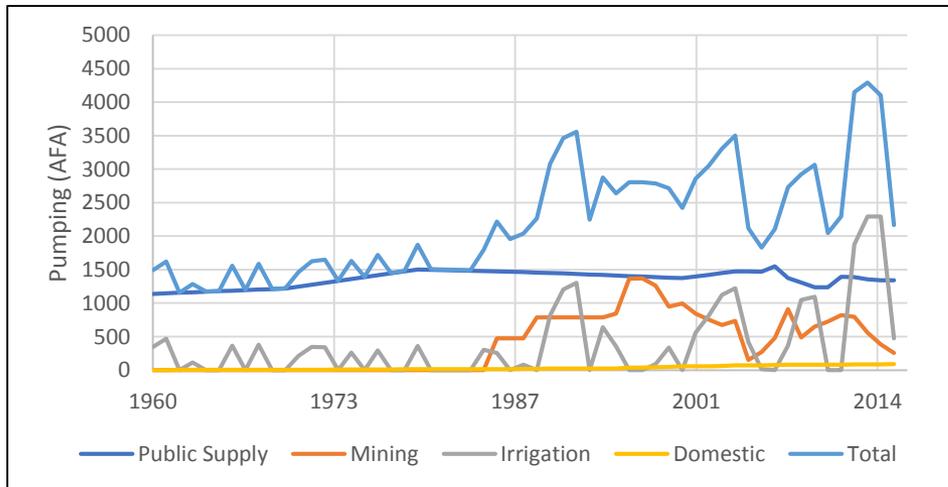
# Flow Budget

Inflows	Estimated (AFA)	Simulated (AFA)
Recharge (Mountain block + Net Ag)	22,400	22,400
Reservoir Loss	<14,000	900
River Loss	7,300	7,500
Interbasin Flow	800	800
Total	30,500 + reservoir loss	31,600

Outflows	Estimated (AFA)	Simulated (AFA)
Evapotranspiration	22,400	22,100
Drains	8,100 + reservoir loss	9,500
Total	30,500 + reservoir loss	31,600

# Transient Pumping

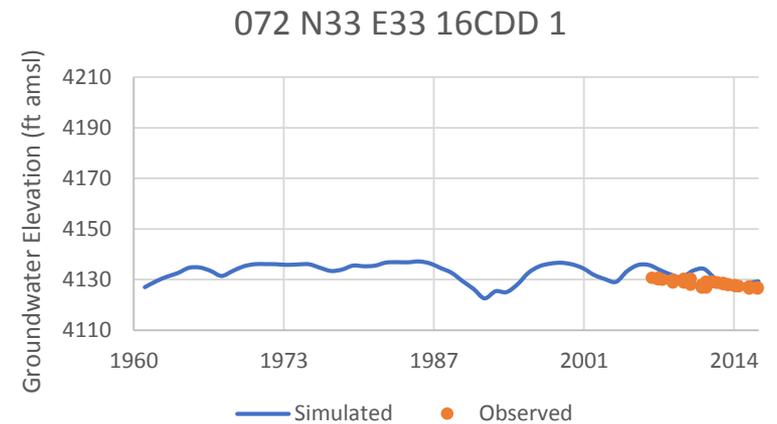
- Domestic wells pumping outside of Lovelock Meadows service area at 0.7 AFA.
- Public supply wells pumped at rates extrapolated backwards to 1960 based on population.
- Mining wells pumpage extrapolated earliest known rates backwards to 1986.
- Irrigation wells pumpage inversely proportional to the ratio of estimated ag recharge relative to the mean ag recharge 1960-1990.



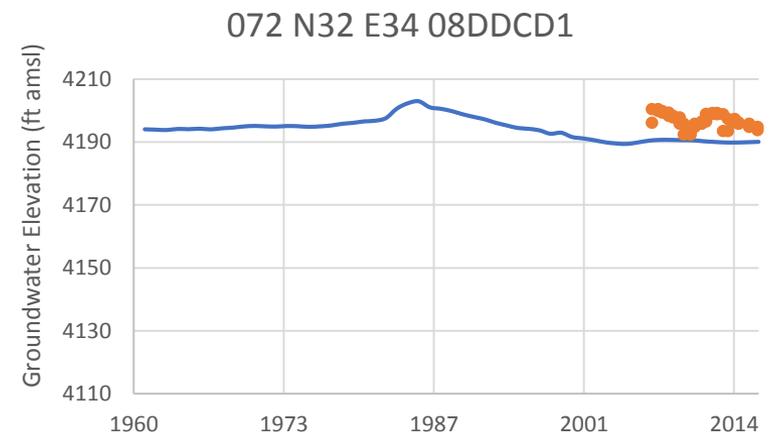
# Transient Results



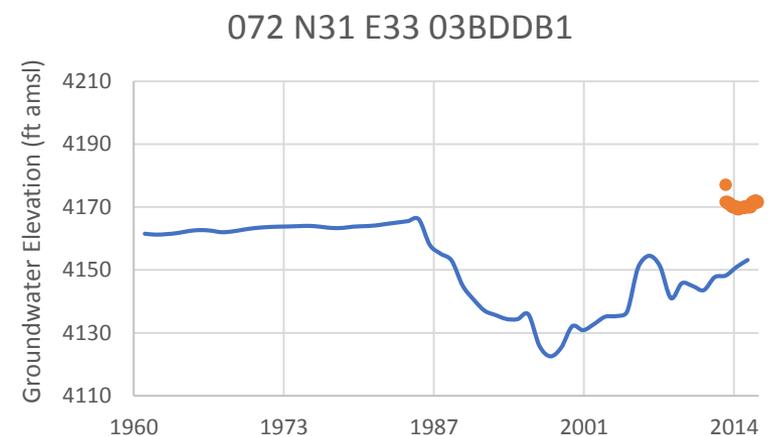
A



B

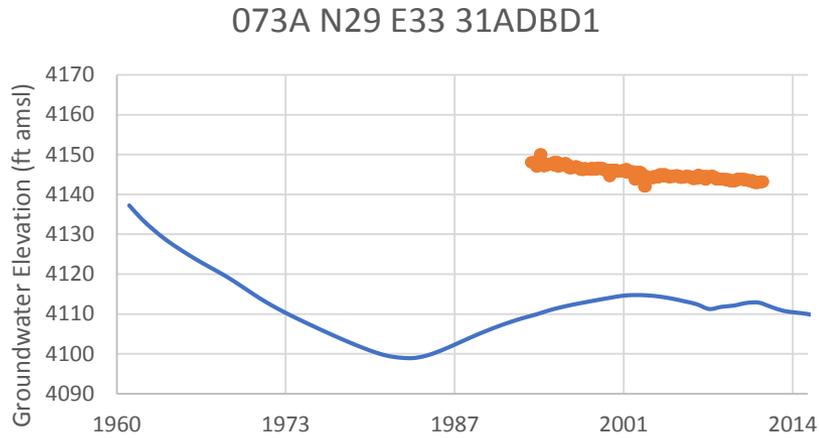


C

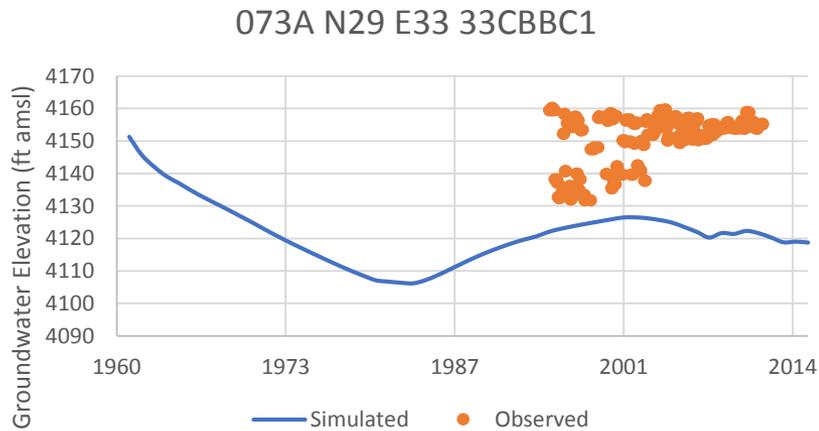


# Transient Results

D

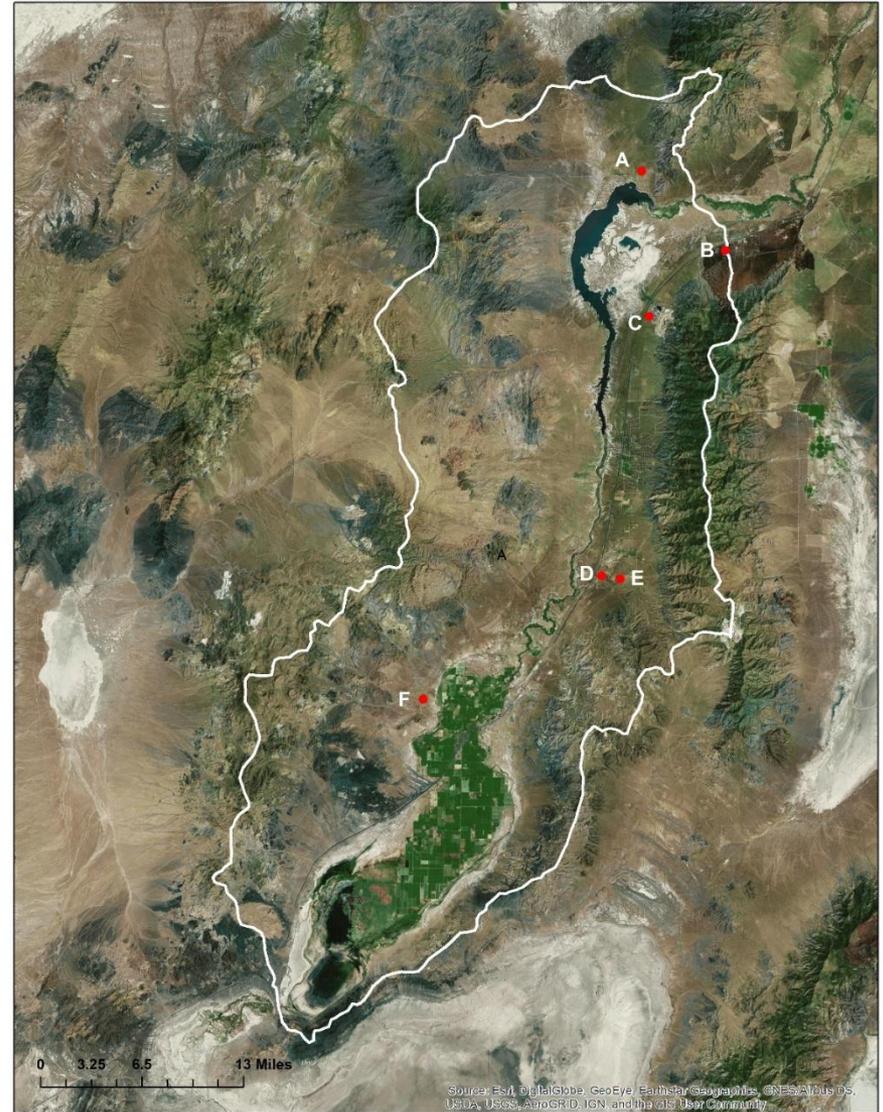
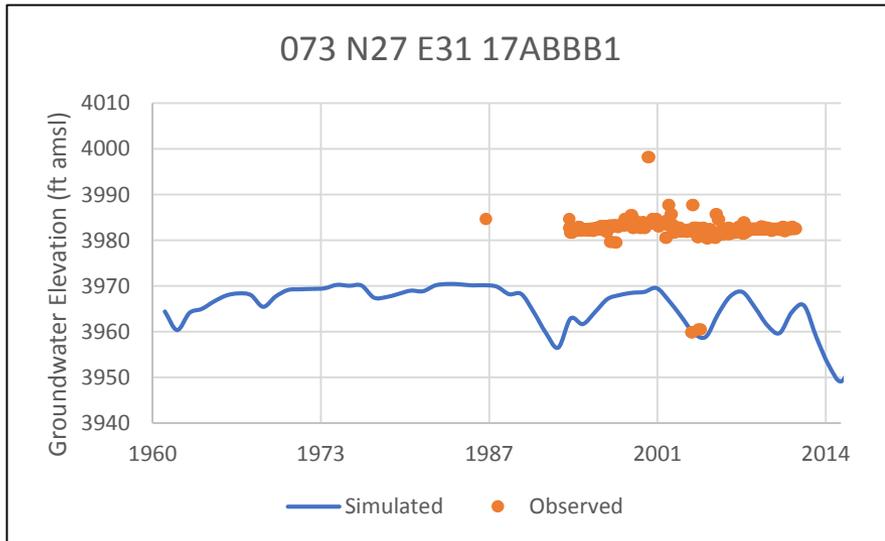


E

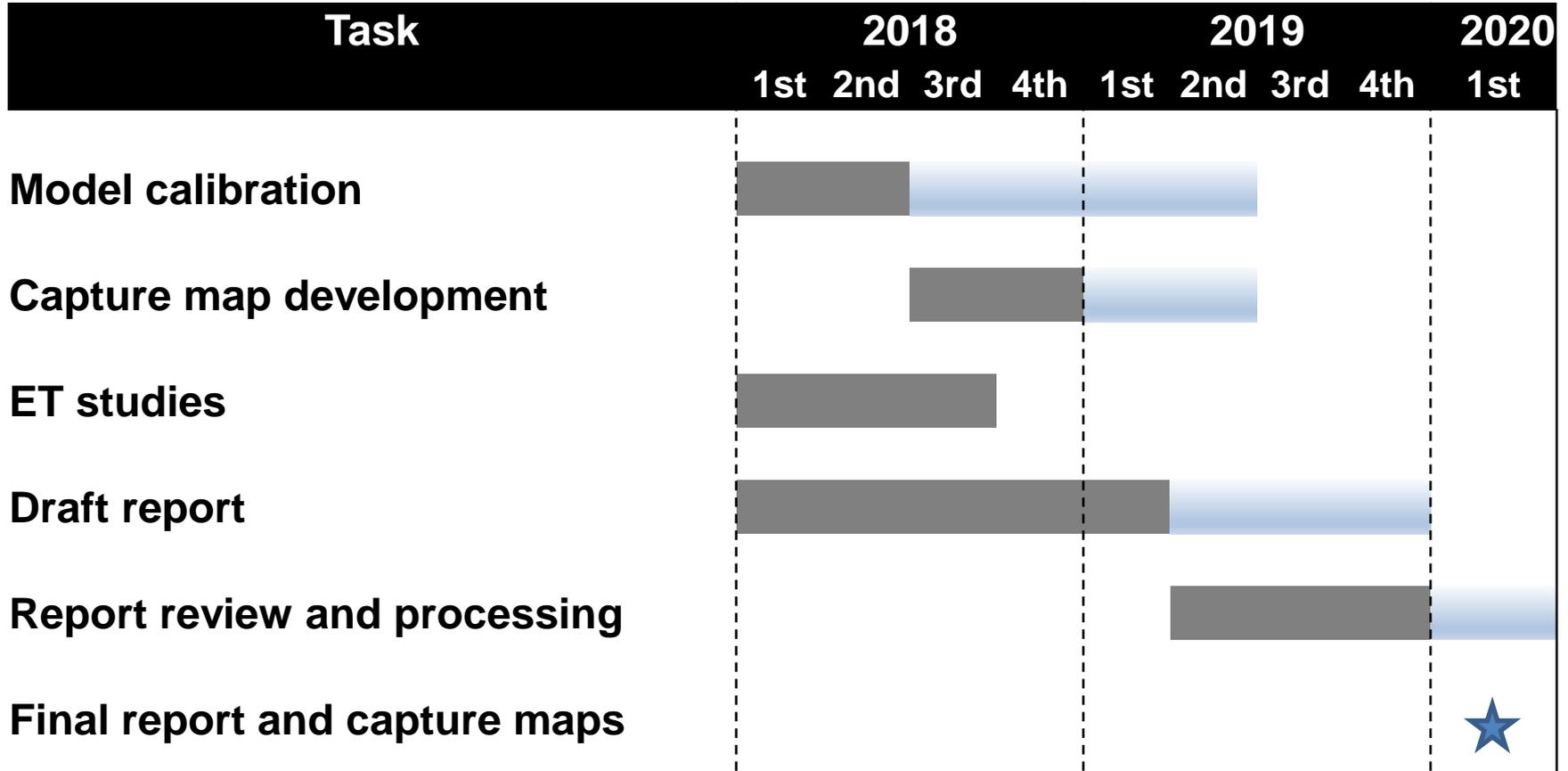


# Transient Results

F



# Project Schedule



# Questions?

